

Jenkin call for pensions reform

Pension schemes are hampering job mobility seriously, says Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday. He gave a warning that the Government would be forced to legislate unless the pension schemes were reformed quickly to remedy the situation. People must be able to change jobs without losing tens of thousands of pounds. At present, Mr Jenkin said, "the so-called early leaver pays for the man who stays put. He is not prepared to do so for much longer". Pension reform would make an important contribution to economic regeneration.

Hard words for left from Foot

Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, who is 68 today, says in an interview with *The Times* that the hard left of the Labour Party, with their authoritarian streak, were not socialists, and that the so-called Trots were "a bloody nuisance". But he was against expelling them from the party.

Action sought on tax evasion

MPs are pressing for tougher action to suppress the "lack of economy" business activity that eludes the taxman through unscrupulous, casual working or other underground means. Parliament's Committee of Public Accounts says there is a danger of tax evasion coming to be regarded as socially and morally acceptable.

Blood-pressure drugs fear

Diabetes and impotence were among possible side effects of diuretic drugs used to treat raised blood pressure, a symposium was told. Doctors had not been warning patients about the potential risk because they were awaiting the result of a long-term study.

Bombs at Swiss railway station

Two terrorist bombs exploded at Geneva's main railway station, injuring five people, one of them seriously. Responsibility for the explosions—the fourth and fifth in Switzerland this week—was claimed by the June 9 Organization, an American terrorist group.

Girl, 11, set free at Old Bailey

A girl aged 11, believed to be the youngest defendant in memory appearing at the Central Criminal Court, was freed by a judge after the prosecution offered no evidence. The girl was charged with stealing an ice bun and a doughnut and could barely be seen over the judge's wig. The case was condemned by law reform groups.

Dearer OS maps

The Government is considering ways of involving the private sector in the activities of the Ordnance Survey, which had a deficit of £21m this year. Dearer maps are likely to be a result of new financial objectives.

Forgotten victim

Today would have been the 32nd birthday of Mrs Yvonne Dunlop, who was killed five years ago in an explosion caused by Thomas McElwee, the Maze hunger striker. Mrs Dunlop's father tells of the aftermath.

Young jobless

Survey is a county unemployment, but even there the recession has left few openings for hundreds of often well-qualified young people. In the second part of her survey on the young jobless, Frances Gibb reports on the shock and disbelief.

'Times' wedding colour magazine

To commemorate the royal wedding on July 29, *The Times* will next Tuesday publish the first colour magazine in its history. Demand is expected to be heavy. Readers are advised to place an order with their newsagents now.

The wedding will attract hundreds of thousands of people on to the streets of London between Buckingham Palace and St Paul's Cathedral. Those who plan to make the journey will find advice on planning their travel arrangements, on choosing their position along the route, and on a variety of services and entertainment available on the day in tomorrow's edition of *Preview*, the arts and entertainment guide published each Friday with *The Times*.

In today's feature on the preparations John Witherow talks to the Dean of St Paul's Page 2

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Sharp rebuffs for Spain by Lords and Commons

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Sharp rebuffs for the Spanish Government over its attitude towards Gibraltar came from both Houses of Parliament yesterday with Ministers doing their best to keep a stiff upper lip and to play down the differences of opinion.

In the House of Lords, the Government was heavily defeated by 150 votes to 112, on an amendment to the British Nationality Bill giving the people of Gibraltar the entitlement to apply for British citizenship and to have this granted as a right instead of a privilege.

The Bill provided that the people of Gibraltar should have citizenship of the British dependent territories instead of British citizenship, which many members of both Houses have considered a second-class status. But while the Government was suffering a humiliating defeat in the Lords, MPs in the Commons were not doing much for Anglo-Spanish relations with blunter denunciations of the decision by King Juan Carlos of Spain not to attend the royal wedding because of the decision to embark on the Mediterranean honeymoon from Gibraltar.

In vain did Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal, plead that the issue should not be blown up into a major diplomatic confrontation. With one or two exceptions, MPs on both sides of the House urged the Government not to back down before the Spanish snub.

Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex, South East, said it should be made plain to Spain that although the British people wanted good relations with the country, they were disappointed and surprised that the Spanish Government should be adopting the same bullying tactics as the late Fascist dictator.

Sir Bernard said it should be made clear to the Spaniards once again that under international law Gibraltar was British and that its people were British and wished to remain so. It was not in the month of any foreign authority to say that a member of the British Royal Family or an MP or anyone else could not set foot in Gibraltar.

Sir Ian assured the House that there would be no advice from the Government to the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer that they should change their plans because of the Spanish reaction. Meanwhile in the House of Lords, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, refused to be drawn on the Juan Carlos issue, merely remarking that his name was usually constituted by law reform groups.

Earlier, Lord Bethell, introducing his citizenship amendment, which was supported by Labour and Liberal peers as well as many Conservatives, said it was a shame to see a

Israeli ground attack feared in Lebanon

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, July 22

The new war of attrition between Israel and the Palestinians continued today with no indication that the intensive international efforts to bring about a ceasefire had done anything to reduce the intensity of the fighting.

In a radio interview today Mr Mordechai Zipori, Israel's deputy Defence Minister, said that if the Lebanese authorities did not take care of the Palestinian problem in southern Lebanon, the Israelis would do it for them. He claimed that although Israel would like to cooperate with Lebanon to impose order on the border it would have to take action to stop the rocket attacks if the situation did not improve.

Since July 15, 26 northern Israeli settlements and towns have been hit by Palestinian fire, and Mr Zipori's remark was interpreted as a threat of a possible Israeli ground operation to take over sufficient territory to push the rocket launchers back out of range of Israeli civilians.

In recent days there have been a number of unofficial United Nations reports about an increase of Israeli military activity in the buffer zone controlled by Major Saad Haddad, Israel's military commander. He has been reported to have prevented reports about military movements in the area but I am one of a number of correspondents who have recently attended heavy Israeli military traffic, including tanks, heading northwards.

As Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, toured the northern Israel border today for the first time since the latest fighting began, Palestinian guerrillas maintained a heavy bombardment of the area, with scores of Russian-made Katyusha rocket night. Israel's heavy artillery has been returning fire in some of the fiercest cross-border exchanges seen since the new phase in the conflict began nearly two weeks ago. Under cover of darkness, Israeli gunboats also pounded



A crew of three prepare to leave their post for the last time—for a bird's eye view, see back page

Farewell to a great British landmark

The Eddystone Lighthouse was extinguished for the last time by keepers at sunrise on Tuesday and yesterday they left by helicopter and flew to Plymouth airport, never to return. When the light beams out again in 12 months' time it will do so automatically.

The world-renowned Eddystone Lighthouse, probably Britain's best-known and oldest open-sea lighthouse, is being converted to unmanned operation.

The familiar beacon has been manned since 1703 and four lighthouses have since been constructed on the famous Eddystone Rocks.

The present tower was designed in 1882 and a helicopter deck was installed in 1980.

When the three keepers, Mr Gordon Phillips, aged 44, from

Jiffcombe, Devon, Mr Larry Walker, aged 40, from Portland Hill, Dorset and Mr Leslie Harriman, aged 34, of Witherssea, Yorkshire, flew into Plymouth in driving rain and had to wait for the helicopter to arrive. The lighthouse is 12 nautical miles south-west of Plymouth, was unmanned for the first time in nearly 300 years.

As he stepped out of the Trinity House helicopter, Mr Phillips, the principal keeper, said: "I'm sorry. We are losing six jobs and the service is being smaller and smaller all the time. The Eddystone is very pleasant to be in and after 99 years it is sad to see the keepers removed, but that's progress."

Mr Walker said: "I was very sad. The pilot flew us round the lighthouse once or twice for a last look. The four workmen left on it are already stripping it down."

Mr Walker, a radio ham, had been granted a special licence for a series of broadcasts in his last days on the rock. He used a high frequency transceiver to contact radio operators round the world.

Mr Harriman said: "I was very surprised."

The other assistant keeper, Mr Harriman said: "I was sorry I wouldn't be seeing the lighthouse again. It was strange last night with no light shining and the sea dark all around."

Mr Harriman had been with the Eddystone for three and a

half years, serving a total of 21 months on the rock. Although he was sad to go, he needed a change, he said.

Until the new automatic lighthouse comes into operation, the job will be done by a light vessel, the Eddystone, stationed about one mile south-east of the rock.

The 100ft long, 800-ton vessel has a 40ft lantern.

Three of its five-man crew were waiting to fly out by helicopter to the ship as the Eddystone's last keepers flew in.

The final word on the closing chapter of the Eddystone history came from Captain Mike Tarrant, the superintendent, South Coast district for Trinity. Continued on back page, col 3

Glowing Thatcher assessment of Reagan's summit performance

From Nicholas Ashford, Ottawa, July 22

"I think Ronald Reagan had a very good summit indeed," Mrs Margaret Thatcher remarked last night shortly before leaving for London at the end of the Ottawa summit.

The Prime Minister's glowing assessment of the American President's performance may have been coloured by the fact that she had just spent the previous two and a half days of talks at Chateau Montebello agreeing with practically everything Mr Reagan said.

Other European leaders were less fulsome in their praise, although most expressed grudging admiration for the President's determination not to yield to the pressures on him to amend his economic policies.

There can be no denying that the Ottawa summit represented a considerable victory for President Reagan. Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, was fulsome in his praise.

Anyone observing President Reagan's personal performance at this summit could not but leave with a deep sense of respect and admiration," he said at a press conference.

"The man's ability to deal with moments of stress or tension, to bring himself above petty bureaucratic squabbles... was an outstanding demonstration of the President's qualities."

Ottawa with three main objectives in mind. The first was to show that he was as capable of handling international affairs as he was domestic issues, second, to withstand European pressure to take speedy action to "lower" American interest rates, and third, to maintain Western unity, in the face of what he saw as the growing Soviet threat.

As all of the summit meetings took place far away from public or press scrutiny, it is hard to say exactly how well the President acquitted himself, but he certainly managed to hold his own when he came in for fairly tough criticism from President Mitterrand of France and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor.

Furthermore, the efficiency of the White House press machine and the range and frequency of American press briefings meant that much of the media tended to focus on him, to the exclusion of other leaders. From this point of view the British fared badly indeed.

Probably President Reagan's main achievement was his refusal to budge on interest rates. Time and again he explained that high interest rates were not American policy but a consequence of economic mismanagement by the previous Administration.

President Reagan came to

Although the President promised to ensure that interest rates would come down as soon as possible, he made no commitment when this would take place. His only small concession was to show a greater understanding of the problems which high American interest rates caused elsewhere and "to take those into consideration as we formulate new policies."

European criticism of American interest rates will, in fact, have strengthened President Reagan's hand in his attempt to win congressional approval for his economic recovery programme.

As the battle over his three-year 25 per cent tax cut proposal reaches a climax on Capitol Hill over the next 10 days, he will emphasize the need for Congress to accept his programme, as speedily as possible, in the name of American allies, as well for his own Administration.

President Reagan achieved less than he had hoped on the question of East-West trade but was, nevertheless, satisfied that the final communiqué contained a paragraph which pledged to improve the present system of control over strategic goods sold to the Soviet Union.

Allies' reaction, photograph, page 8; leading article, page 15

Ship flees under Iran gunfire

A British skipper who broke out of Iran's Bandar Abbas seaport with Iranian navy ships exploding around his ship, arrived in Dubai yesterday with a sick, exhausted crew of 14 men and three women.

Captain W. N. (Bill) Davey (57) ignored the Iranian guns when food and water ran out on his ship and the crew began falling ill with exhaustion.

Captain Davey said that, despite repeated requests for fresh water during the 15 days that the ship—the 3,000-ton Halder (A), registered in Gibraltar—was in Bandar Abbas, the Iranians provided none.

They promised but the water never arrived. We were desperate. If we had not broken out we would have all died," he said.

The Halder (A) loaded with 11m worth of steel piping consigned to an Iranian company, broke out of the Iranian port on Saturday, Captain Davey said that as he headed out of the harbour an Iranian naval vessel ordered him back.

The Iranian captain, speaking in impeccable English, told me that he had been ordered to blow us out of the water if we did not stop," said Captain Davey.

NEC backs Labour anti-nuclear policy

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

Rejecting the pleas of Mr Michael Foot and Mr Denis Healey, leader and deputy leader of the Labour Party, made on behalf of the Shadow Cabinet, Labour's national executive committee yesterday approved a strongly anti-nuclear defence policy statement which will be put to the annual conference for approval this autumn.

Mr Healey moved amendments to passages which pledged a future Labour Government to total and unconditional opposition to the manufacture or deployment of cruise missiles, whether ground-air or sea-launched, and the neutron bomb, and stated: "We refuse to permit their deployment in Britain by the United States or any other country."

On behalf of the Shadow Cabinet, Mr Healey wanted the party to be committed to multi-lateral nuclear disarmament, and Mr Foot appealed to the left-dominated national executive to delay the issue of the statement until he has had consultations with other Socialist parties in Europe, and with Russian leaders in Moscow.

They were politely, but firmly, told that there could be no reconsideration of the commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament which is supported by more than 100 resolutions on the agenda for the party conference this year.

Mr Healey sought to delete the paragraphs stating: "We reaffirm our commitment to include in the next Manifesto a firm pledge that the next Labour Government will close down all nuclear weapons, British or American, on British soil or in British territorial waters."

"This would make a direct contribution to the safety of the British people. It would strengthen the movement for a European nuclear-weapon-free zone and it would also act as a powerful initiative for wider nuclear disarmament."

Mr Healey wanted to make the document read instead: "We believe that to eliminate all nuclear facilities and bases from Britain, whether British or American, would not, in present circumstances, diminish the danger of war."

"On the contrary, it would weaken the United States' commitment to the Atlantic Alliance, which the Labour Party overwhelmingly supports and which would increase the risk of war in Europe."

"It is however essential that all United States nuclear bases in Britain should be subject to dual control by Britain as well as the United States."

But this amendment was rejected by 14 votes to 3.

Tory named for Croydon poll

Mr John Butterfill, aged 40, a chartered surveyor, was chosen last night as the Conservative candidate to fight the forthcoming by-election in Croydon, North-West.

Mr Butterfill was the unanimous choice of the local party executive. There were three other contenders.

He said afterwards that he was sorry Mrs Shirley Williams would not be standing as the Liberal-SDP Alliance candidate. "I think she is very beatable," he said.

Royal stag night—and honeymoon plans



The Prince of Wales entering White's Club

Prince holds secret party at White's

The most closely guarded secret of the royal wedding was revealed last night when the Prince of Wales held a stag party for his closest friends at White's Club in St James's (writes Frances Gibb).

The oldest and most celebrated club in London, just a couple of minutes' drive from Buckingham Palace, had offered the party as a wedding present. The Prince, who like his father is a member, accepted the gift, despite press reports that no stag party was to be held.

It was attended by 20 guests chosen by the Prince, including one of his best friends, Mr Nicholas Soames, in the club's private dining room. Until the Prince arrived soon after 8 pm, even the staff did not know what was going on.

Gulf visit scheduled

By a Staff Reporter

The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer are planning to spend part of their honeymoon on the royal yacht Britannia cruising down the Suez Canal and visiting the United Arab Emirates in the Gulf.

The decision to go ahead with that part of the holiday, after a week's cruising in the Mediterranean and the Sea of Marmara, would depend on the seriousness of the situation in the Middle East.

Recent Israeli attacks on Palestinian bases in Lebanon have heightened tension in the region and there is the added complication of the war between Iran and Iraq.

It is understood that the couple, who will board the yacht at Gibraltar on August 1, will spend two days in the Mediterranean, and half a day in the Adriatic, before the 4,961-ton yacht sails through the Dardanelles to spend four days in the Sea of Marmara.

On the journey south, they plan to spend half a day in the Greek island of Rhodes, just off the Turkish coast, before heading for the Suez Canal.

The Foreign Office will decide if the region is stable enough for a trip through the Suez Canal, the Red Sea and a one-day visit to the United Arab Emirates, which include Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

If not, the couple will spend the second week of the fortnight returning through the Mediterranean and heading for the Western Isles, via Malta and Copenhagen.

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August 20 by-election in Sands constituency

By Julian Tavland, Political Editor

A parliamentary by-election in the Sands constituency in Northern Ireland, to elect a successor to Robert Sands, the dead hunger striker and Provisional IRA gunman, is to be held on August 20.

The writ for the election is to be moved in the Commons on Tuesday by Mr Dafydd Thomas, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, who has had assurances that neither the Government nor the Labour Party will block his move.

Sands, who was serving a 14-year jail sentence for possessing firearms, was elected to the Commons on April 10 by a narrow majority of 1,446 votes over Mr Harry West, the Official Unionist candidate.

He was unable to take his seat, and died on May 4 after 66 days without food.

Mr Thomas was approached by supporters of Sands and of the Plaid Cymru campaign soon after his death, to initiate a fresh by-election. But the Government decided to forestall the election of another hunger-striker, with the certainty of more adverse publicity worldwide, by hurrying through the Parliament the Representation of the People Act.

The disqualifications from membership of the Commons, or from nomination for election to the Commons, any convicted person serving a sentence of more than one year. The Act received Royal Assent on July 2.

Mr Thomas and Mr Ernest Roberts, Labour MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, yesterday told Mr Francis Pym, leader of the House of Commons, that they intended to move the writ for a by-election on August 13.

Mr Pym consulted Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of

State for Northern Ireland, and asked the MPs to wait a week so that the marching season in Northern Ireland, with its increased political tension, notably the march on August 12 of the Apprentice Boys of Derry, would be over.

Mr Thomas said they agreed to this on condition that the Government would not try to use its Commons majority to prevent the writ.

He said yesterday: "I was keen to see that the election would not be delayed beyond the normal period of three months, and that normal British and Irish democratic procedures were followed."

Labour's policy statement on Northern Ireland, to be published later this week, will not contain a promise that a future Labour government would arrange a referendum to ascertain the views of people in the republic (George Clark writes).

On a motion by Mr Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool, Walton, the party executive yesterday decided by 19 votes to 7 to delete the reference to a referendum. In its place was inserted a pledge that the Labour Party will actively campaign to win consent among the population in Northern Ireland for peaceful unification.

Opposition to the policy statement was led by Mr Sam McCusker, leader of the National Union of Seamen, seconded by Mr Alan Hadden, of the bipharmaceutical union.

Mr McCusker said he did not believe there would be consent in Northern Ireland for a united Ireland. The people there sent representatives to Westminster and if there were to be a referendum it should extend to the election of the whole of the United Kingdom.

Mr Hadden thought the policy statement did not take

enough notice of the viewpoint of "protestant members of the working class".

An amendment proposed by Mr Frank Allaun, MP for Salford, East, in favour of encouraging the formation of a new union-based Labour Party in Northern Ireland, was approved by 10 votes to nine.

Officials at the Northern Ireland Office were carefully considering a statement from Mr Gerry Adams, vice-president of Sinn Féin, last night which appeared to indicate a change of emphasis in the demands for direct negotiation to end the hunger strikes at the Maze prison (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

With the condition of Kieran Doherty and Kevin Lynch continuing to worsen as they enter the sixty-third and sixty-second day of their fasts respectively, the interpretation of his remarks could prove crucial.

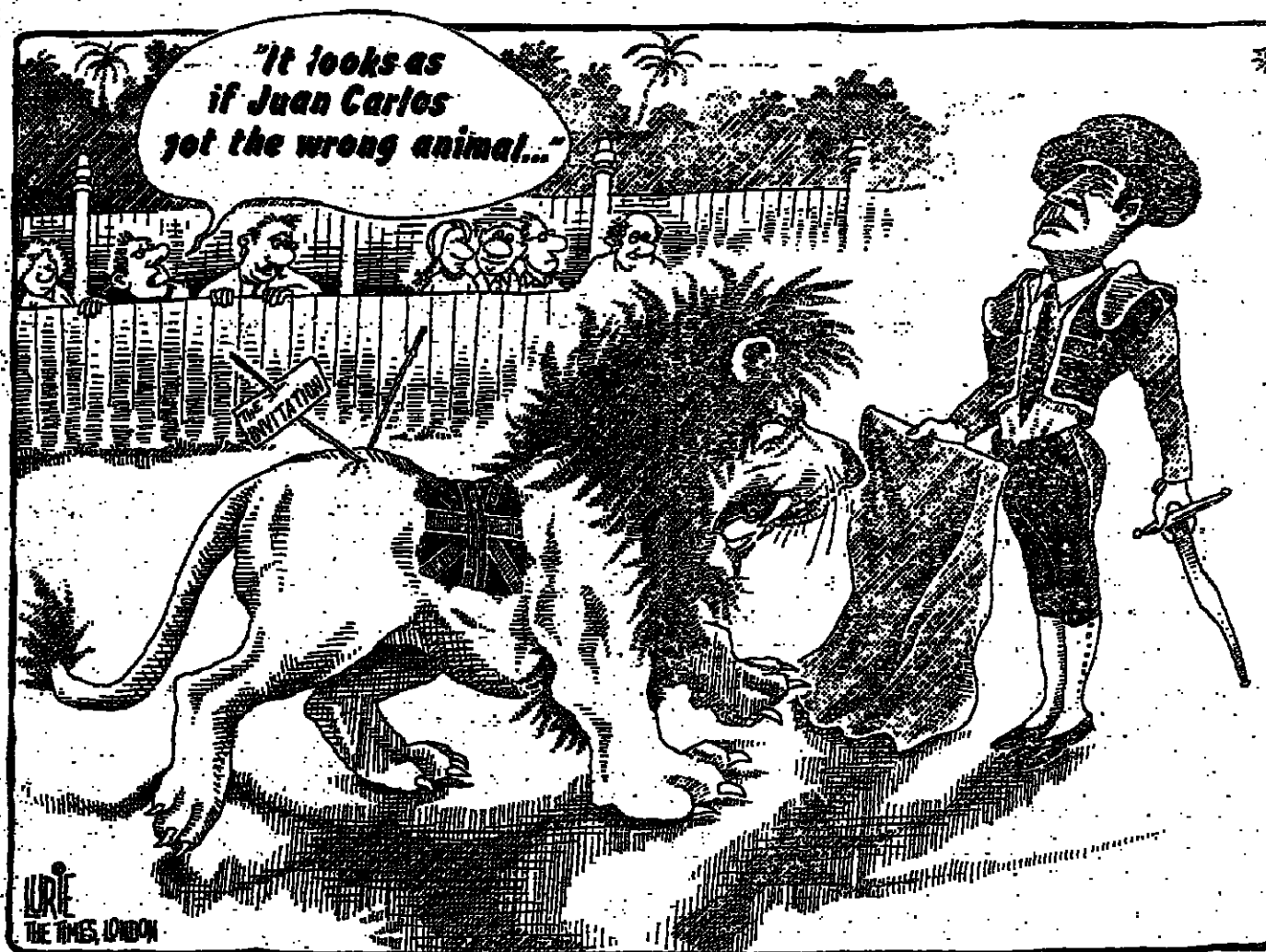
They were being seen as a final attempt to break the deadlock.

Referring to the British Government's frequently repeated offer to clarify to prisoners what would happen when the fast ends, Mr Adams called for the Government to make a public statement elaborating their plans.

The Irish Government was last night accused of "doing a Pontius Pilate act" after its statement that it will make no immediate further effort to resolve the Maze prison crisis (Tim Jones writes from Dublin).

The accusation was made by the National Black Community after Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, said he was satisfied with the British Government's action to resolve the deadlock.

Leading article, page 15



Royal wrangle: The views from London and Madrid

Mystery of Whitehall advice to the Palace

By David Spanier, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office did its best yesterday to play down the suggestion that the major diplomatic row had been caused by its advice to the Prince of Wales over starting his honeymoon from Gibraltar.

While protests flooded in from Madrid, officials maintained that there was no evidence of a serious breach in diplomatic relations with Spain. King Juan Carlos's decision to cancel his visit to the royal wedding was described as a gesture, which evidently the Spanish head of state felt obliged to make. The implication was that, despite the strong feelings aroused, Anglo-Spanish relations ought to continue, at the official level, perfectly well.

The mystery yesterday was over the nature of the Foreign Office advice to Buckingham Palace on the matter. As is usual with all journeys undertaken by the Prince, the Foreign Office was consulted. But the advice given must always remain confidential.

What seemed clear was that the dispute blew up very suddenly. When Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary, met the Spanish Foreign Minister, Señor José Pedro Pérez-Llorca, in Brussels last week, the Gibraltar issue was not mentioned.

Instead, there was a discussion of Spain's candidacy for membership of the European Community.

The first that Lord Carrington heard of the impending storm, it appears, was when an urgent message reached him at the summit conference in Ottawa.

The advice to the Palace no doubt took into account Spanish sensitivity about Gibraltar. But it may be that the Foreign Office took the view that the start of a honeymoon was a non-political event and that if it suited the royal couple to pick up the yacht at Gibraltar, no harm was likely to be done.

The alternative view, as put out by the Spanish press, that Britain was deliberately seeking to put pressure on Spain over carrying out an agreement on Gibraltar, seems wide of the mark. British ministers have shown much understanding and even sympathy for the reluctance of the Spanish Government to implement the Lisbon agreement on Gibraltar.

Under the agreement, signed in April 1980, Spain agreed to lift the restrictions against Gibraltar and Britain agreed to open negotiations on the future of Gibraltar. Both sides maintained their positions of principle.

It was confirmed yesterday that Prince Charles will play polo for England II against Spain at Great Windsor Park on Sunday despite King Juan Carlos's decision.

Spain 'told of visit only last weekend'

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Spain made "urgent and serious attempts at every level" to convince the British Government and Buckingham Palace of the inadvisability of the Prince of Wales beginning his honeymoon in Gibraltar, the Spanish Foreign Ministry said in Madrid yesterday.

The ministry denied that any formal protest over the decision had been made, but it referred to the journey to Gibraltar as "inopportune, gratuitous, inconsiderate and mistaken".

The Spanish Government was not told about the Gibraltar visit until last weekend and Señor José Pedro Pérez-Llorca, Spanish Foreign Minister, personally appealed to highly placed British Government officials to reconsider the decision.

The British Embassy had no comment on the dispute which arose after King Juan Carlos rejected his invitation to the wedding.

The attempts by Spain to convince Britain to cancel or play down the Gibraltar visit, included contacts between representatives of the Zarzuela Palace, the residence of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia, and Buckingham Palace.

When it became clear in Madrid that the Spanish authorities were unable to con-

vince Britain to reconsider, Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, discussed the matter with King Juan Carlos on board the King's yacht Fortuna off the Spanish coast on Monday. In the end, the decision not to attend the wedding was made personally by the King, informed sources said.

It was not immediately known in Madrid whether the British Ambassador to Spain had advised the Foreign Office of the sensitivity of the Gibraltar issue.

There was speculation in Madrid, both in newspapers and among diplomats, that the insistence on Gibraltar as the starting place for the honeymoon represented an honest, if king-sized, error.

Many found it hard to believe that Britain should have stuck to the original proposal in the face of Spain's "urgent and serious attempts", if they had realized fully the way the Gibraltar issue unites Spaniards of widely different political tendencies.

Spanish sensitivities were also hurt that the future King should identify the British royal family so closely with the disputed Crown colony, on one of the most important occasions of his life.

The absent king, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Pickets gather in Edinburgh

Lesson for Heseltine in Scottish clash

By David Walker

This morning members of the Scottish Labour Party's executive and of the several public service trade unions will gather outside St Andrew's House in Edinburgh to picket Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, on behalf of the prerogatives of Lothian Regional Council.

They want the repeal of the recent Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act. Under it Mr Younger has moved to withhold some £47m of Lothian's basic 1981-82 budget of £150m because he has been empowered to judge the region's spending plans excessive and unreasonable.

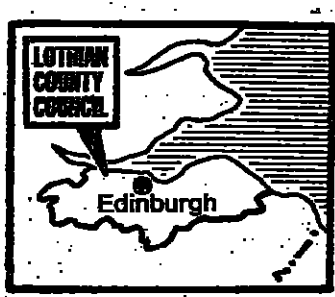
The pickets are taking part in no more regional drama. For the playlet of Younger versus Lothian, running in Edinburgh for most of this year, has something to tell Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment and custodian of local authorities in England and Wales.

That is: by allowing an argument between mighty central government and political enthusiasts on the left of the Labour Party to develop into a constitutional issue, you box yourself into a tight little corner.

Mr Younger's corner is this: either Lothian's ruling Labour group decides when it meets next Monday to compromise and reduce its expenditure—£25m savings this year might be acceptable—or the Scottish Office moves into the uncharted territory of default, direct rule and picketing on a scale that will dwarf today's.

Lothian's story is similar to that of several big city councils in England. Based on Edinburgh and the old Midlothian, the region has not settled since re-organisation in the mid 1970s; Conservative Edinburgh pays the rate bill and feels put upon by socialists from the industrial hinterland.

Since 1979, Lothian region has shaped up for an ideological fight with the Scottish Office, using the rate support



grant and rate levels of an unprecedented high level as its weapons.

In 1981-82 Lothian plans to spend 22 per cent more in real terms than in 1978-79; from being £145m above central guidelines that year it is now at least £50m above. The council has created 4,000 new jobs since 1979.

Rates rose by 50 per cent this year, giving an average payment per household of about £300, and ratepayers are due to pay 56 per cent of the council's outlays, compared with less than 45 per cent in Scotland's other main urban region, Strathclyde.

To cope with the Lothian problem Mr Younger pushed through a new law: it further tightened the already harsh borrowing regime in Scotland and allowed him to penalize "overriding" councils in advance.

His Bill had the unwanted effect of uniting the Scottish Labour Party against it; Scottish Tories in local government have been vocal in opposition, too.

An appeal that local government should stand united against any proposals for the Government for legislation to curb council powers to raise local revenue was made yesterday by Mr Ian McCallum, chairman of the Association of District Councils. (Our Local Government Correspondent writes).

He told an association meeting in London that the prospect of controls went beyond normal financial controls and into the constitutional arena.

Union mood hardens against deal

By David Felton

Civil servants yesterday displayed their dissatisfaction with the Government's latest pay offer at various meetings around the country, with one moderate union reporting that voting was running 60-40 for rejecting the offer, calling an all-out national strike.

But only a few meetings have been held so far, and a clear picture of the unions' voting patterns will probably not emerge until the weekend.

The Transport and General Federation, which before the five-month dispute started, was always regarded as a moderate union, has held six meetings out of 70 and has recorded votes of 2,267 against the offer and for a national strike, with 1,536 in favour of acceptance.

Yesterday morning a meeting in Bristol by more than 700 RSF members, who voted 432-279 for all-out action, is regarded by officials as a good indicator, because during the dispute Bristol's votes have closely reflected the national trend. RSF members on Merseyside voted 1,280-764 for strike action, but that decision was not unexpected because the area has a tradition of militancy.

The few meetings held by the largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, have apparently supported an all-out strike, but equally the handful of meetings held so far by members of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants have been heavily in favour of accepting the offer.

The Government's proposals also require an orderly return to work, a speedy resumption of normal working with union cooperation in clearing backlogs of work and the normal forfeit of payments for periods where individual civil servants were on strike. There would be no punishment for union members who have taken action.

Meanwhile in the High Court yesterday, the Intervention Board for Agricultural Products was ordered by a judge to pay £4m in subsidies to exporters. The board has been unable to pay EEC subsidies, known as minimum compensation amounts, to 250 exporters.

Bridesmaid and bride brave the wind and rain for dress rehearsals



It was a day of rehearsals yesterday for Lady Diana Spencer and her bridesmaids. Above, India Hicks, aged 14, one of the bridesmaids, arriving at St Paul's Cathedral to learn her part in next Wednesday's proceedings. Earlier, Lady Diana went to the workshop of David and Elizabeth Emanuel for probably the final fitting of her wedding dress. She is leaving their premises in Brook Street, London.

The Dean of St Paul's is ignoring the razzmatazz

By John Witherow

The trickiest question the Very Rev Alan Brunskill Webster has faced since it was announced that St Paul's Cathedral would stage the royal wedding came from a Brazilian journalist.

"How is it," he asked, "that a bankrupt island can spend so much time and energy on a royal wedding?"

You do not, however, become the eighty-eighth Dean of St Paul's and sit beneath a portrait of such an illustrious predecessor as John Donne to be lost for words in the face of a direct assault.

The Dean took a deep breath and plunged into a speech, saying the wedding was about relationships "and nothing in the world is more important than human relationships".

Whether the journalist was convinced by the explanation is perhaps known only to his readers in Rio de Janeiro; but it was delivered by the dean without a trace of sentimentality and fairly represents his attitude towards the marriage.

He, too, is not taken in by the razzmatazz—although he is aware of the symbolic importance of the wedding—and he

is acutely conscious of the ceremony's private significance to the couple.

Mr Webster, who is 62 and has a shock of grey hair and a pleasant face, is a pleasant reminder of W. H. Auden, came to St Paul's four years ago after being Dean of Norwich Cathedral for seven years.

His reputation was that of an innovator, or as he calls it, an "enabler", a man who enables things to be done. While at Norwich that involved setting up a night shelter for the homeless, at St Paul's it was creating an "open church".

The only danger he foresaw of holding the wedding in the cathedral was that "there will be so many crown heads and ambassadors that it will look very establishment".

But at the same time he saw it as an ideal opportunity to involve other churches and it was his suggestion that led to the inclusion of Roman Catholics and members of the Free Churches in the service. His main regret is that there will be no black clergyman or a woman taking part.

What he did not foresee was



the financial wrangling the cathedral would become involved in with the television companies over fees. St Paul's is expecting a £100,000 deficit this year and wants the companies to foot some of the bill for hidden costs, which it believes could be as high as £40,000.

The cathedral has certainly been gearing up for months for the event. For the first time in eight years Sir Christopher Wren's building is free of scaffolding for the external restoration.

It is after all, the first time that a royal marriage has taken place in the present St Paul's. Prince Arthur, the eldest son of Henry VII, was married to the ill-fated Catherine of

Aragon in 1503 at a medieval cathedral on the site, later destroyed in the Great Fire.

Although the dean was at first surprised that St Paul's was chosen rather than Westminster Abbey, the traditional scene for royal weddings, he says the relationship between the cathedral and the Royal Family is "very domestic".

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is patron of the Friends of St Paul's and while her closeness to the Prince of Wales is well known, he is reputed to have chosen the cathedral because of the number of guests it could seat (about 2,600) and because it was a suitable place for a spectacular musical occasion.

Science report

Mountains that move from sea to land

By the Staff of "Nature"

Many of the mountains on the sea-bed will one day become mountains on land, according to four geophysicists writing in the American journal, *Science*.

Evidence, they say, is accumulating to suggest that some of the big mountain ranges in the world may be made from piles of submarine mountains which have travelled thousands of miles over many millions of years to their present resting places.

High plateaux under the sea are still on the move, between two and 10 centimetres each year, and it is likely that one day they will be slammed up against the edge of continents to form more high land.

That latest idea is rather different from conventional wisdom on mountain building. Geophysicists have thought that many mountain ranges are created by the crumpling of the earth's crust near places where two large segments of the crust, called tectonic plates, meet.

But Dr Z Ben-Avraham and colleagues at the Stanford University and the United States Geological Survey say that simple crumpling, as one plate slides underneath another, is unlikely to be solely responsible for the world's major mountain chains.

What is more likely is that the movement of the plates, over many millions of years, brings elevated sections of crust to the plate boundaries where they get stuck.

That, at least, is what appears to have happened in the mountain chains along the north-western coast of America. The idea emerged after extensive geological studies of the region revealed that the mountains were made of several very different types of rock that could not all have come from the American continent.

The geologists showed that they had probably originated as much as a thousand miles away in the Pacific. The most likely building material, especially for mountains on plate boundaries at continental margins, is called ophiolite.

Precisely how the submarine plateaux become detached from the ocean plate when they meet a continent and precisely how they travel still remains something of a mystery.

Spanish sensitivities were also hurt that the future King should identify the British royal family so closely with the disputed Crown colony, on one of the most important occasions of his life.

Nature, Science, vol 213, p47 (1981).
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IN BRIEF

Health chief demoted

Mr Peter Biddulph, who has been health administrator for Bromsgrove and Redditch District, in the West Midlands, for the past seven years, was demoted yesterday from his £15,000 a year post after a series of hospital blunders had occurred in his area.

He said yesterday that the mistakes were made at the 359-bed Bromsgrove General Hospital and were mainly medical and nursing errors. They included a boy who was given a stomach operation when he was suffering from an ear complaint.

Radioactive leak

A leak of low level radioactive liquid has been discovered at the Harwell atomic research station, Oxfordshire, the Atomic Energy Authority reported yesterday.

The leak was from a ceramic pipe taking water used to wash down radioactive materials to a storage tank. There was no danger to staff or public, the authority said.

MP to retire

Mr James Johnson, Labour MP for Kingston upon Hull, West, who had a heart operation fitted 18 months ago, is to retire at the next general election. He is aged 72, and had a majority of 8,160 at the last general election.

Absconder surrenders

William Wilkins, a Broadmoor patient who slipped away from two nurses on a day trip to Brighton two weeks ago, gave himself up yesterday at Worthing. Wilkins, 45, was sent to the top-security hospital 22 years ago after being convicted of murder.

Overtaking danger

One in seven drivers risk their lives to overtake, a survey by a unit at Cranfield Institute of Technology's School of Automotive Studies in Bedfordshire revealed yesterday. Fourteen per cent of drivers were found to overtake with less than the minimum safe distance in hand.

Costly acquittal

Edward Willetts, aged 33, an assistant governor attached to Northallerton jail in North Yorkshire, was acquitted by a jury of shoplifting yesterday but the judge refused to grant legal costs. He has to pay half his costs, believed to be more than £3,000.

Plowright returns

Joan Plowright, whose severe throat infection has prevented her appearing in the new production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* at the National Theatre in London, on July 9, is expected to return by the middle of next month.

GREENPEACE BOAT HIT

Greenpeace volunteers yesterday abandoned their attempt to prevent the dumping of almost 3,000 barrels of radioactive waste in the Atlantic after their launch was damaged.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, United Kingdom director of the environmental group, said the protest was called off when a concrete-filled barrel, weighing about a ton and containing waste, landed on the launch and put an engine out of action.

He accused the crew of the Gem, the waste-carrying ship on charter to the Atomic Energy Authority, of heavy-handedness.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

MARK STREET LONDON E8 4SA

Although caring for the gravely ill, particularly those stricken by Cancer, is intensely demanding, the Sisters of Charity have responded to this crucial need for 75 years.

Their devoted and delicate care will bring comfort and relief to 600 patients and their grievously burdened families this year.

Please help. Every compassionate gift will be warmly acknowledged.

Reverend Mother

مكتبة الأصيل

TUC seeks more inner city aid from Thatcher

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

TUC leaders are to seek a meeting with the Prime Minister to press their demand for a £500m increase in urban aid and immediate action to halt decline in inner cities.

If, as union leaders expect, Mrs Thatcher agrees to see them, it will be the first such meeting since the largely abortive talks on economic and industrial policies held last October at the TUC's request. Although the TUC General Council's decision follows directly from the riots and publication of its own policy for regenerating inner cities, union leaders are likely also to renew their call for a general change of economic course by the Government.

A strongly worded statement approved by the General Council yesterday called on the Government "to demonstrate its unequivocal commitment to rebuilding the crumbling physical and social fabric of our cities".

It added: "Measures to restore public order and protect the police from physical danger, necessary as they are, must not be used as a smokescreen to conceal the fundamental problems that underlie the current crisis."

The statement added that the need to maintain public order should not be distorted to rationalize repressive measures. Such measures would only exacerbate social tensions when what was needed was the rebuilding of confidence in community relations.

The General Council claimed that the statistics for unemployed school leavers, revealed in brutal starkness on Tuesday, vividly depicted the level of this crisis.

Concern was again expressed today's meeting about the use of the Special Patrol Group, which the TUC wants to see disbanded, the prospect of a new Riot Act, and any increase in police powers.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said that opposition had been voiced to any move which would like the first steps towards a paramilitary organization to bring rioters under control.

Nevertheless, TUC leaders are apparently hoping that a discussion of urban problems with the Prime Minister could bear more fruit.

Mr Murray said that although the unions had at their previous meeting with Mrs Thatcher warned of possible unrest because of government policies, they were not going to Downing Street in the spirit of "we told you so."

He said that the visit by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to Liverpool perhaps meant that the Government was beginning to think seriously about the problem.

Black community leaders told Mr Heseltine yesterday that they were not prepared to discuss the problems of Merseyside until the Chief Constable,

Mr Kenneth Oxford, resigned or was dismissed (John Young writes from Liverpool).

At a one-and-a-half-hour meeting in Toxteth, scene of the recent riots, members of the Liverpool Defence Committee insisted that the attitude of the police to local people, and to blacks in particular, was the overriding issue. To try to steer the discussion to other topics, like unemployment or bad housing, was evasion.

Mr Heseltine, after repeating that he was in Liverpool to listen and not to make instant judgments, said it would be totally wrong for him to try to trample on the prerogative of Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary.

After the meeting, committee members said that Mr Heseltine had declined to answer questions, insisting that it was his task to listen. He had wanted to know how and why the riots started and they had told him that it was because the police were "an occupying force."

In contrast, Mr Heseltine said after the meeting that he did not feel the particular issue of the police was of paramount importance: "I feel that there is a range of other issues that ought to be discussed."

Once again he complained of his dilemma in that before he came here he had been urged to listen to what people had to say. Now everybody was wanting to make instant decisions.

The second phase of Lord Scarman's inquiry into the Brixton disturbances in April will begin on September 2 and is expected to last about a week, it was announced yesterday (Lucy Hodges writes).

The public hearing into the underlying causes of the riot will be held at Church House, Westminster, and will look at the national picture, focusing on the policing of multiracial areas like Brixton.

Lord Scarman told *The Times* that he did not have any arrangements as yet to visit Toxteth in Liverpool or Moss Side, Manchester, where there have been riots recently. But he said he was not discounting the possibility of such visits.

Most of phase two of the inquiry will be taken up with written evidence. More than 170 submissions have so far been received.

But Lord Scarman will hear oral evidence from a senior Metropolitan Police witness about policy issues and will be addressed by the seven barristers representing community groups and others. The Commission for Racial Equality will also be represented.

Conservatively few police officers, representing racial prejudice and intolerance, bring the whole force into disrepute, the Methodist Church Division of Social Responsibility says in its evidence to the Scarman inquiry. The force as a whole is not to blame. (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).



Mr Graham Parker enjoying the heavy and persistent rain correctly forecast for Britain yesterday.

Staunch defence of a gloomy outlook

By David Nicholson-Lord

The men of the Meteorological Office yesterday delivered a sober rebuke to accusations that they do not smile enough when giving the bad news to the viewing nation. The British weather, they said, was no laughing matter.

Mr Graham Parker, one of the longest serving of all television weathermen, declared sternly: "We are civil servants. We are there to do a job, not to make personalities of ourselves."

Mr Bill Giles, who broadcast regularly until last year but now appears once a month, added: "We probably get more facts in a 60-second weather forecast than a 20-minute news bulletin."

It is terribly difficult to smile when you are concentrating desperately.

If the call by Mr Kenneth Warren, Conservative MP for Hastings, for a new breed of "happier-looking chaps" to tell us about the depression meets with little response it will be largely because of the unique circumstances of the job.

Seasoned television meteorologists explained the pitfalls yesterday. They include the brevity and totally unscripted nature of the bulletins, the tendency for news to arrive at the last minute and the many grem-lins lurking in BBC studios for the gallant few still performing live broadcasts.

Cables can entrap the hapless Mer man. Ink can be upset. Mr Parker once attempted a last-minute adjustment to his isobars, split a saucerful and addressed the nation with the ink trickling down his trouser legs.

Mr Parker, chairman of a Surrey Scout group, believes a gang show training is essential.

Grimacing weathermen also excite frequent letters of complaint, especially when they have a grim tale to tell.

In the face of such adversity, the weathermen valiantly maintain an informal house-rule. "You watch," Mr Giles said. "We always smile at the end."

Forecast, back page

New union fund will tie Labour spending

By Our Labour Correspondent

Senior union leaders agreed yesterday to establish a special fund which will significantly increase their influence on Labour Party spending.

The decision to raise by voluntary levy a central fund firmly under the unions' control comes after a meeting earlier this month at which affiliated unions rejected a request for an immediate 10p per head increase in affiliation fees. That would have raised an extra £630,000 for the party.

A meeting of Trade Unions for a Labour Victory yesterday agreed that the prime targets for such a fund, which will be drawn on only with union approval, should be better local organization, political education, and the financing of election campaigns.

In two concessions to the party, the meeting agreed to examine the level to which affiliation fees might be increased and to co-opt ex-officio onto TULV the chairman, treasurer and general secretary.

Nevertheless the move reflects a belief among senior union leaders that the financial management of the party by the national executive has proved seriously inadequate.

And it comes, moreover, at a time when a number of union leaders are making concerted efforts to maximize their influence on the party's policy.

Union leaders are thought to be considering approval for an increase in affiliation fees of about 5p per head.

SELF-STUDY FOR PUPILS URGED

Greater use of self-study methods by pupils in schools was strongly advocated by the Council for Educational Technology in evidence to the Commons select committee on education and science yesterday.

The council, which studies the development of new learning systems, said that self-study techniques had got a bad name because of the amount of inadequate individual work sheets being used in schools.

Stern tells bankruptcy court about mortgage

The investigation into the luxury lifestyle of William Stern, the world's biggest bankrupt with debts of £118m, began yesterday with the question: "Who pays the mortgage?"

The former property tycoon, who is applying for discharge from his 1978 bankruptcy, lives in a magnificent house worth more than £300,000 in West Heath Avenue, Golders Green, north-west London. It belongs to the Edmund Stern Settlement, a trust set up by his late father, and it is full of paintings, antiques and luxurious furnishings, also owned by the trust.

Mr Stern, aged 48, now a property consultant, said the mortgage of about £5,500 a year is paid by the settlement. "So to that extent it is a subsidy to you," remarked Mr John O'Reilly, the Official Receiver.

It is indeed, replied Mr Stern, whose assets have so far realized more than £20,000.

He revealed that in the three years since the bankruptcy he had earned fees totalling £76,750 from three companies. He has paid £19,425 tax and, under business expenses, his net income had been about £250 a week.

In addition he had received gifts or subsidies from relatives totalling about £41,000.

When one of his daughters married, he paid £15,000 towards the cost and the bridegroom's parents paid the rest. Mr Stern said he has two daughters and three sons to support and has a big house to run.

From his £250 a week and the subsidies he had paid £13,150 for the benefit of creditors; in support of his discharge application he was offering a further £55,000, which would be paid as to £25,000 by his mother and brother and the balance by annual instalments of £10,000.

His discharge application, which is opposed by three creditors—Keyser Illman, the Crown Agents and the First National Bank of Chicago—was adjourned until tomorrow.

Prior backs package to cut jobless

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, conceded yesterday that mounting unemployment put strains on society. But he insisted that the Government was willing to ease the problem and help those worst affected.

In a speech to the Engineering Employers Federation, Mr Prior mentioned his West German-style £1,000m package of measures to reduce unemployment.

Under his scheme every school-leaver would be guaranteed a job, further education or a place on the Youth Opportunities Programme.

Mr Prior said: "Unemployment is now unacceptably high. Continuing levels of this magnitude place strains on society which cannot be fully measured. Nobody disputes that."

"This Government has shown itself willing to spend a large amount to help those worst hit during this difficult period and thus ease the social strain."

He said Britain's record on training was "pretty dismal" and repeatedly compared Britain with West Germany, where 70 per cent of school-leavers go on to further vocational education or training in Britain the figure is 24 per cent.

"There are not enough training opportunities for adults. For too long we have treated training and education as a once-and-for-all experience at the start of life."

"We all have a part to play. Training demands an investment of time and money by the employer who will reap the benefits from his employees later."

A trainee should be prepared to accept relatively lower earnings while he or she is training for a better future career.

"Government must be ready to intervene where necessary to ensure adequate training opportunities for all."

Mr Prior came under further pressure from Tory backbenchers last night to legislate in the next session of Parliament to curb the legal immunity of trade unions (Our Political Staff writes).

Although the House of Commons select committee on employment split along party lines in its response to Mr Prior's green paper on immunity, the Conservative majority, representing a broad span of the party, was unanimous in proposing new laws on the locked shop, the secret ballot, forfeiture of union funds and their issues.

GIVE JOBS NOT DOLE, DHSS SAYS

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Public spending should be switched from keeping the unemployed idle to providing them with jobs, the Commons select committee on social services said yesterday.

The net cost of providing 250,000 unemployed people with low-paid jobs in the health or social services would be about £56m, the committee said in a report based on evidence provided by the Department of Health and Social Security. It suggests that the net cost of employing a married man with two children in the lowest paid jobs in the health or social services would be £167 a year more than keeping him unemployed on social security.

Public Expenditure on the Social Services, Third Report from the Social Services Committee, House of Commons, Paper 224-I (Stationery Office, £2.30).

The jobless young, page 7

New group to lobby for mentally handicapped

By a Staff Reporter

A new organization which will advise ministers on policy for the mentally handicapped was announced yesterday by six charities who feel that the mentally handicapped have been ignored for years.

The group, The Independent Development Council for Mentally Handicapped People, is chaired by Mr Brian Rix, the former actor and secretary general of MENCAP, the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults.

The council had some immediate tasks, Mr Rix said yesterday. The Special Education Bill will be its first priority and then it will respond to the Government's consultation document on transferring patients from long-stay hospitals to local authority care.

After that it will try to talk to the Government about the new Mental Health Bill, which is being imposed by the European Commission of Human Rights. The legislation is expected to give restricted patients in mental hospitals the right to appeal to an independent arbiter.

Mr Rix said that he did not want the council to become a voluntary quango or an excuse for government inaction. The

group is supported by the King's Fund Centre and the charities backing it are MENCAP, the Spastics Society, Dr Bernardo's MIND, the Campaign for Mentally Handicapped People and the Association of Professions for the Mentally Handicapped.

The council wants to expand on the work of the National Development Group for the Mentally Handicapped, which was disbanded by the Conservatives two years ago.

At present the council has no separate staff or premises, but it hopes to generate its own funds.

Local authorities should have a statutory duty to provide proper services for the mentally ill and handicapped, according to the group document published yesterday. (Our Health Services Correspondent writes).

The document, which comes less than a week after the Government announced plans to reduce the number of mental patients in hospital, calls for more vigorous efforts to achieve a community-based service and for many large hospitals to be closed.

The Right Approach to Mental Health, Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square, London SW1 3HH, £1.25.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO CLAIM YOUR RETIREMENT PENSION.

Because of strike action at DHSS computer centres special arrangements are necessary to deal with claims for national insurance retirement pensions.

If you already get a retirement pension.

Carry on collecting your pension as usual. These special arrangements do **not** affect you.

If you are about to retire.

Here's what to do if you are about to reach pension age (60 for women; 65 for men) **and** intend to retire from your normal full time job:

A few weeks before you retire, 'phone or write to your local DHSS Office asking for a retirement pension claim form.

- Fill in the form and send it back to the same office. Don't delay, or you could lose money.
- Contact your local DHSS office if you need advice about your claim; or if you don't have enough money to live on and want to claim supplementary benefit.

It may not be possible to work out your full pension entitlement straight away.

In most cases you will get a basic rate pension at first. As soon as possible this will be adjusted to the correct rate and backdated where necessary.

Issued by the Department of Health & Social Security

Fears over drugs for blood pressure

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

Serious disorders, including impotence and diabetes, are beginning to emerge as possible side effects of diuretics, drugs commonly used to treat raised blood pressure, it was said at a symposium in London yesterday.

Family doctors have not been warning patients about those risks because they do not know about them, it was said.

Professor Charles George, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at Southampton University, told a meeting at the British Heart Foundation's symposium on cardiovascular drugs, that diuretics, which had been used over the past 10 years and reduced fluid in the body, had been producing ischaemic effects.

Doctors were not aware of the effects because they were awaiting the results of a long-term study on the treatment of raised blood pressure by the Medical Research Council.

Where the benefit to the individual of these drugs lies is still not clear. That is why these current trials are so important.

"At present, we must look at the individual patient. It may be preferable to advise him to stop smoking than to put him on drugs."

Between two million and five million people probably suffered from raised blood pressure and possibly about 400,000 were being treated by diuretics.

The risks of impotence among men increased with age, but it was possible that diuretics increased the risk by up to 10 times.

One year's treatment with diuretics produced no extra risk of sugar diabetes but with five years' treatment the incidence did increase.

It was impossible to say what the risks were after ten years, because too few had been treated for that long.

Professor George, who was speaking at Imperial College, London University, said that the side effects were something that doctors would need to consider.

Foot at 68: Patriot at war over man's inhumanity to man

By Louis Herca

Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, who is 68 today, spoke yesterday in an interview about patriotism and socialism, the secret conspiracy of the hard left within the Labour Party, and one of his heroes, William Hazlitt.

That told more about Mr Foot than any journalist could hope to learn in many hours of conversation because the two are so alike. Mr Foot stands revealed when he writes and talks about his hero.

In his recent book *Debt of Honour*, he wrote that Hazlitt hated the inhumanities that his fellow-citizens inflicted upon one another. Yet he loved the other worlds in which he and they lived, the world of nature, of books, of the theatre, of painting; of music; indeed the whole wide world of the imagination.

Who can doubt that this is a self-portrait—although unlike Hazlitt Mr Foot is happily married. His hatred of man's inhumanity to man largely explains why he is in politics.

He recalled yesterday how politics was the staple conversation at the family dinner table for as long as he could remember, but the then prevailing deprivation he saw in Liverpool during the 1930s persuaded him to become a politician.

A socialist revolution seemed imminent at the time, and then he added wryly that it was taking longer than he expected. But his time was approaching.

The prospect may daunt many readers although his chances of becoming Prime Minister are not rated highly. Apart from his age, his love of the world of the imagination could prevent him from residing at No 10. At least that is what the cynics suggest.

I am not convinced that a man who lives in the world of the imagination cannot make a good Prime Minister. Arguably the world would be a better place if its leaders spent a little more time in bookshops. Mrs Margaret Thatcher might be a better Prime Minister if her reading had gone beyond Dr Milton Friedman.

That said, for some people Mr Foot does not look a convincing Leader of the Opposition and a future Prime Minister. It is not only his age. Gladstone fought the Midlothian campaign when he was 70, and he was a writer



Mr Michael Foot: Free thinker in the world of the imagination, who may have missed No 10.

although, Mr Foot was quick to add, not nearly as good as Disraeli.

Lloyd George also had a shock of white hair, and nobody questioned his virility, political or otherwise. Why the doubts?

Even some of his admirers believe that he is not cut out for ministerial responsibility, and that he should not have left the back benches where he flourished as the Nonconformist conscience of the nation.

He then vividly expressed the radical tradition in English history, and as one would expect from a member of the Crownwell Society quoted the Lord Protector when he opposed Britain's entry into the European Economic Community. Splendid stuff, but perhaps too romantic for a minister of the Crown.

Mr Foot has also been dismissed as a Little Englander, an emotional pacifist, and a Marxist who is too soft with the unions. As a literary man he

admitted a debt of honour to Marx as a writer nourished on Shakespeare, Cervantes and the Hebrew prophets, but regretted his legacy of socialist sectarianism.

He denied that he was a pacifist. He had supported armed resistance to fascism in Spain and in the Second World War, and he added, was Britain's finest hour, but the atom bomb changed all that.

He recalled Byron's *Darkness*. If a poet could write about the extermination of the world before the invention of nuclear weapons, surely the nation should understand that universal extermination was a possibility.

As Secretary of State for Employment, he was "soft" with the unions, but he argued the case for industrial democracy which he said was the only solution for the country's economic problems.

I suggested that the trade

unions were unenlightened, but he insisted that we would now be enjoying this industrial nirvana if the last Labour Government had had a parliamentary majority during its last months in office.

Convincing or not, what did emerge during the conversation was his patriotism. Without any of the usual demureness, he said: "I love my country and people".

He was all in favour of patriotism despite Dr Johnson's drive, but of course he was a Tory scoundrel.

Britain had the best chance of producing a socialist society, which he defined as a society in which the community spirit and common humanity were the engines of change and not the profit motive. Greed and envy were sins that Mrs Thatcher proclaimed as virtues.

We had the best chance because of our ancient democratic-liberal traditions and

institutions. Socialism took on the colour of the country and without those traditions and institutions it could lead to authoritarianism.

He had some harsh things to say about the Soviet Union and suggested that the United States was saved from damnation only by the spirit of Jefferson.

Mr Foot said that the hard left of the Labour Party, with their authoritarian streak, were not socialists. The so-called "Trotsky" were "a bloody nuisance". They ran a secret conspiracy, the antithesis of the open conspiracy of British socialism. He was against expulsion because it could become a witchhunts, but they would be exposed.

I doubt that Mr Foot's confidence is widely shared, but on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday we can all raise our glasses to a good English patriot.

Power from Severn barrage feasible

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A tidal barrage across the Severn estuary, which will produce 6 per cent of the country's electricity at a capital cost of £5,600m, is judged to be technically feasible and economically viable by a government-sponsored inquiry.

Those conclusions come from investigations by a team led by Sir Hermann Bondi, former chief scientist to the Department of Energy and the new chairman of the Natural Environment Research Council, commissioned three years ago.

After comparing numerous proposals for building a dam across the Severn, the group favours a structure crossing the river between Brean Down, near Weston-super-Mare, and Lavernock Point, between Barry and Cardiff. The recommended design would produce electricity twice a day for several hours, in contrast to a more expensive and elaborate plan for continuous generation.

The proposals published yesterday by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, recommend further studies into the environmental and social acceptability of a barrage. Also recommended are trials of two key items for the barrage, over four years, during which the final decision should be made.

The main aim is to generate electricity from large prefabricated concrete units (caissons), housing turbines and sluices. There would also be locks for shipping, and embankments would be created over rocks used to fill the long stretches between the caissons and the shore.

The economic benefit is a cut of between five and eight million tons of coal equivalent of fuels burnt a year in power stations. The cost of electricity from tidal power should be about three-tenths per kilowatt hour, or within the range of future costs calculated for conventional coal and for nuclear plant.

Many factors have influenced

the preference shown by Sir Hermann's group, which concludes that a rapid expansion of nuclear plant for generating electricity would reduce the value of tidal power. On the other hand, the faster fossil fuel prices rise, the greater the value of tidal power, the future price of coal is mentioned as especially significant.

With such immense capital costs, a higher discount rate of 7 per cent would make tidal power marginally uneconomic, whereas a lower discount rate, of 3 per cent, would make it an attractive investment.

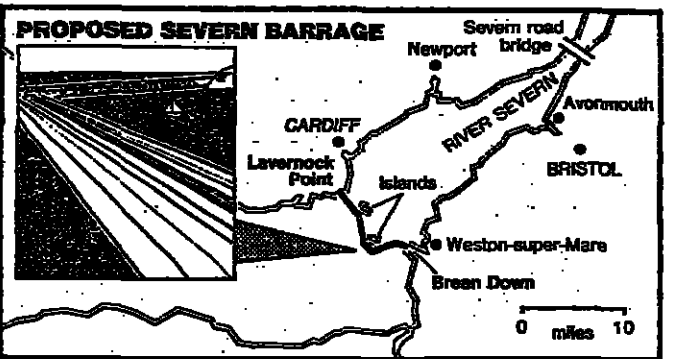
Two large ship locks in the barrage are needed for access to ports in the upper estuary, and continued trade by these ports depends critically upon the new tidal levels within the basin behind the barrage.

The design, called the Inner Barrage, would create about 21,000 new jobs, for varying periods of up to 10 years. The tidal cycle in the Severn estuary makes it one of the world's attractive sites for power generation. Many schemes for exploiting this energy source have been put forward but discarded because of the huge capital costs.

The preferred method of energy extraction, which may be designed to operate in one of three different ways, allows the rising tide to flow through sluices and turbines, which idle in reverse. Generation occurs on the ebb flow: it gives the minimum unit cost for energy production, it has least impact on navigation and it is the least unsightly.

Trials recommended include the placing of large caissons in the Severn estuary, and the trial of the type of turbo-generators that will be needed for the form of power production, and of which British industry has limited experience.

The cost of a prototype turbine caisson is estimated at about £25m.



Taming the Severn: Where the barrage will stand.

Man on stage rape charge tells of sexual fantasy

A man accused of raping a woman on the stage of a famous music hall told Leeds Crown Court yesterday that she had agreed to what took place. He denied forcing her to submit or threatening or frightening her.

The woman has alleged she was raped in 1975 on the stage of the City Varieties Theatre, Leeds, after being lured there by the man to take part in a dance audition. The man, who was not arrested until last January, has denied the charge.

Yesterday he admitted luring the woman, now aged 23, to the theatre under false pretences but said he had wanted to act out a fantasy with her, having seen newspaper photographs of her which had aroused his sexual excitement.

He said it was his intention to get the woman to pose naked so that he could watch her. He intended her to believe he was a film producer.

"It was not my intention to have sexual intercourse with her. I get my sexual satisfaction out of watching rather than carrying out the act of intercourse."

In the theatre she had done some dances at his request and he had shown her some steps. He had asked her if she would be prepared to model naked and she agreed. The woman did some poses for him and he told her a contract would be drawn up. They had then kissed and he left the stage.

He said he then saw an axe on the wall. "I did not want to leave the theatre without proving that I could go all the way with the woman. In some kinky way," he said.

He had placed the axe on the stage, but had not threatened the woman with it. She had been smiling, he said.

He had intercourse with her, but he told the jury "She wanted me, I know."

The trial continues today.

Religious post 'first' at BBC

By Robert Nowell

The BBC has broken with tradition by appointing a laywoman as Roman Catholic assistant to the head of Religious Broadcasting, a post hitherto held by priests.

She is Miss Frances Gumbley, aged 25, a classics graduate from Newnham College, Cambridge, who joined the *Catholic Herald* in 1975 and who has been its editor for the past two years—the first woman editor of a Catholic newspaper in this country. Under her editorship the weekly paper has kept its circulation steady at about 29,000.

Her predecessors at the BBC since the war have been Father Agnellus Andrew, now a bishop and head of the Vatican's commission for the mass media; Father Patrick McElroy, and Father Crispian Hollis. She expects to take up her new post in the autumn.

Among those interviewed for the job were several well qualified priests who were asked how they would feel about taking part in the weekly Eucharistic celebration held in the religious broadcasting department and about giving and receiving communion. But that question about attitudes to intercommunion was not put to Miss Gumbley, nor, apparently to other lay applicants.

New hope of curing sick divers

From Our Science Editor, Cambridge

Medical scientists believe they have discovered a cause of the irreversible bone damage, generally referred to as osteonecrosis, which increasingly is being suffered by deepwater divers.

A team at the University Department of Surgery at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, has found that the supply of blood to the bone marrow decreases and increases to the bone cortex under diving conditions.

One result is that microscopic bubbles of gas which become trapped between the bone marrow cells may later become the focus for the erosion of bone that occurs in necrosis. The mechanism was described at a conference at Churchill College, Cambridge, yesterday by Dr Ian Thomas in presenting preliminary results of research to doctors of the European Undersea Biomedical Society, who are examining the latest research into decompression sickness.

Increasing importance is attached to finding the cause of bone necrosis and whether

there is a connexion with the other more widely known illness of "diver's bends", because the incidence of the disease is rising. Specialists in diving medicine estimate from examinations of men working below 300 metres that one in five can expect to suffer damage.

More important, the figures indicate that the number will grow as men dive to greater depths for longer periods, as required by the developing offshore energy, mining and engineering industries.

Measurements made on trained divers in shallow waters at up to 40 metres' depth, by Dr Maurice Cross and Dr Leslie Booth, of the Houlder Diving Research Unit of the Fort Bovisand Underwater Training Centre, Plymouth, reveal fundamental and rapid changes in the biochemistry of the blood in the first three weeks of diving.

Recovery takes place slowly. But the alterations found in the red blood cells and in the enzymes in the blood plasma are being exploited by Dr

Cross's team to formulate a simple test for rapid screening after divers return from a tour.

The mixture of gases and high pressure can cause "high pressure nervous syndrome" that has among its symptoms vomiting, fatigue and tremors. A United States research group at the Duke Medical Centre, North Carolina, has conducted tests using various combinations of Trimix (mixtures of helium, nitrogen and oxygen) that avoid narcosis.

The results, reported by Dr P. B. Bennett, compare the conditions of three men, who suffered severe high pressure nervous syndrome for more than two days in 1979 after gradual compression to a depth of 460 metres. They were breathing 5 per cent nitrogen in a helium and oxygen atmosphere.

In subsequent trials, divers maintained a virtually normal state by breathing 10 per cent nitrogen in the gas mixture. Nevertheless it took almost two days before their mental ability was restored.

Nurse denies assault

From Our Correspondent, Nottingham

A nurse at the top security Rampton Hospital told Nottingham Crown Court yesterday that he tackled a violent patient to prevent what could have been serious trouble.

John Alfred Aishorpe, a State Enrolled Nurse, has denied ill treating Mr Gary Jordan, aged 25, a patient, by kicking him between the legs and banging his head twice against the wall.

Mr Aishorpe told the jury that he took hold of Mr Jordan in the hospital gym because he was shouting and

screaming and was going to rush towards the wall. "I thought he would start banging his head against the wall because he has a history of self-mutilation," he said.

The nurse added that if Mr Jordan had knocked against other violent patients there could have been serious trouble. He said that he and Mr Jordan fell to the floor but he did not assault him. Afterwards the patient told him: "Thank you very much for stopping me hurting myself."

The case continues today.

RIISING TIDE OF RUBBISH

Britons are throwing out more and more for the dustman—the equivalent of 322kg of rubbish per person, an increase of 10kg between 1979 and 1980, according to a report just released by the Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, which surveys every county in England and Wales.

The biggest quantity was in Wales, where an average 437kg was disposed of. In London, most waste was collected in Westminster: 154,000 tonnes, enough to fill the Houses of Parliament.

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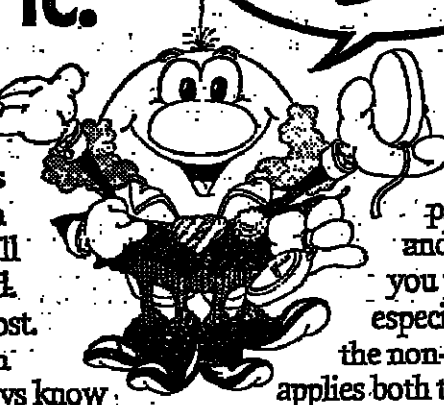
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This, believe it or not, is how Shell goes recruiting its marine ecologists.

Every few weeks, a Shell scientist visits beautiful Dornoch Firth, cradled in the heather-blue hills of northern Scotland, to hand-pick 100 sturdy mussels.

They're part of a unique environmental study taking place in the depths around Shell's North Sea oil platforms, where they sit sampling seawater and helping Shell ecologists monitor any signs of pollution from our massive oil-production effort.

The fact is that our oil-platforms and rigs aren't isolated specks lost in grey ocean wastes.

The Brent Field is a self-contained oiltown where, on a clear day, you can see more than 20 huge structures ranging from giant production platforms like Brent Charlie to drilling rigs that crouch like enormous spiders on the horizon.

Operating the field involves the discharge into the sea of large quantities of water pumped up with the crude from oil reservoirs deep below the seabed.

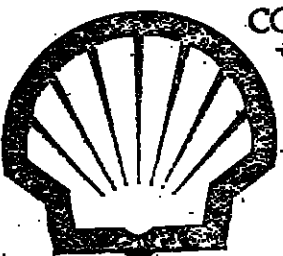
And although all waste water is filtered and cleaned more thoroughly than government safety limits require, tiny traces of impurity inevitably remain.

Hence our experts, the mussels. They have the blotting paper-like ability to extract and accumulate the minutest quantities of chemical impurities and hydrocarbons from seawater.

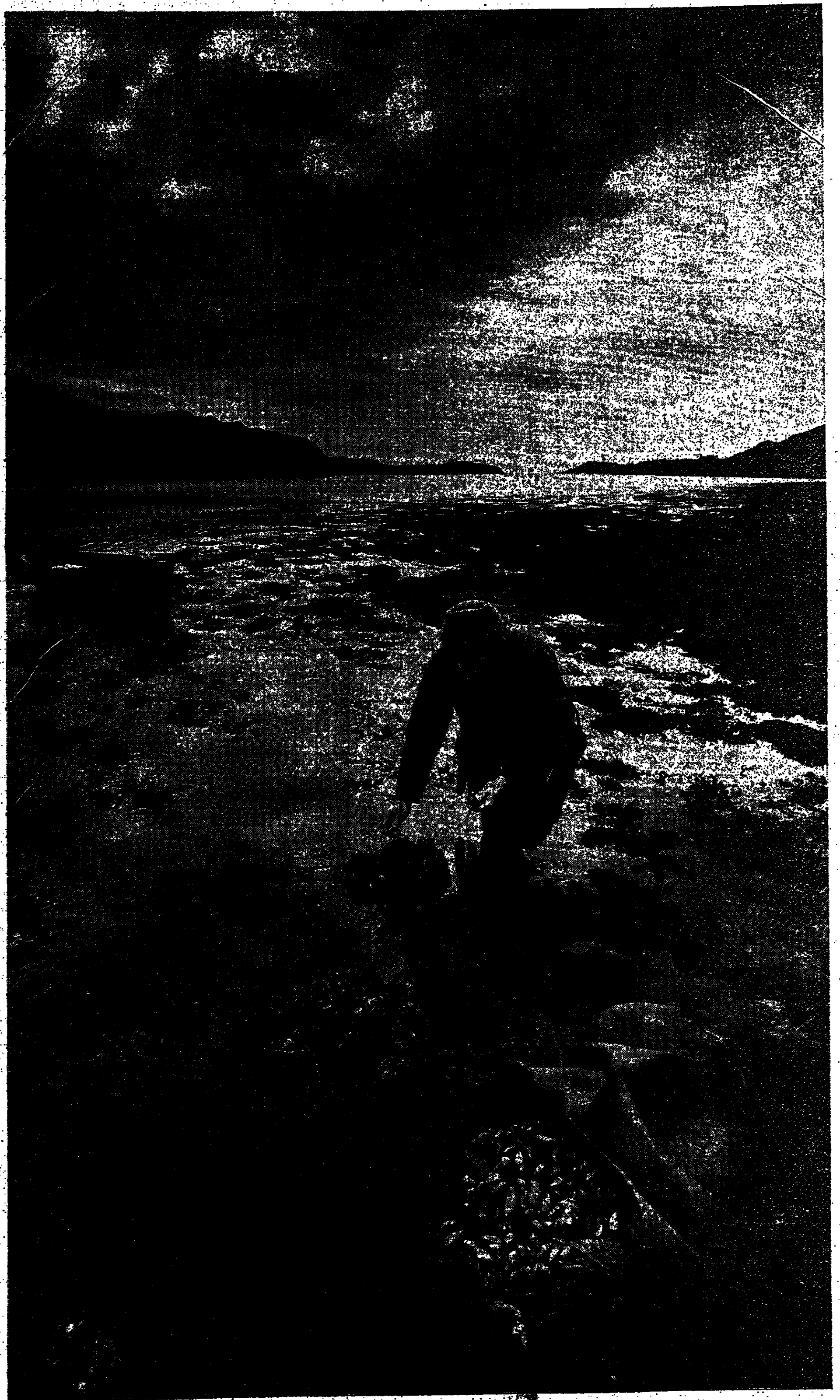
By examining the body-chemistry of Dornoch mussels before and after a spell in the Brent Field, we can detect and check any pollution threat long before it's had time to become a problem.

It's an early warning system designed to protect the entire ocean food-chain: plankton and algae, bright feathery sea-anemones, brown shrimp, jellyfish, whiting, cod, grey seal and even whales.

Britain needs North Sea oil. But we must guard against any unwanted consequences of that need. Which, in a nut- (or rather a mussel-) shell, is what our splendid Dornoch Shellfish are doing.



You can be sure Shell's playing its part



New culling threat to 5,000 grey seals

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Government is soon to announce its decision on the culling of up to 800 mother grey seals and 4,200 pups off the Scottish coast this autumn, an operation similar to the one called off after protests three years ago.

The proposal is one of several in a confidential report from the National Environment Research Council (NERC) being considered by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland. The report is believed to disclose a sharp increase in seal numbers last year.

Fears of renewed pressure from the fishing industry, for the first time since 1978 have already led to a possible strike by conservationists. Lord Melchett, chairman of the Wildlife Link committee, representing eight leading bodies, has written to Mr Younger arguing that no big cull should be considered until a three-year research programme on seals' impact on fish stocks, begun last August, is completed.

The fishing industry wants urgent action. Mr Robert Allan, the British Fishing Federation's Scottish officer, said yesterday: "The seal population has been allowed to grow with no restraint for the last three or four years."

"Whatever the scientific evidence, there is certainly a case for doing something rather than doing nothing."

Widespread protests, including a determined and well publicized resistance campaign by Greenpeace, the international environment group, led to the abandonment of the 1978 cull in favour of a long-term management plan.

In the last two years only the "traditional" local cull of 2,000 pups has been licensed and it has been conceded by the Government that previous estimates of the growth in seal numbers were inflated. Instead of the 7 per cent claimed, growth was put last year at a not statistically significant 3 per cent, partly the result of breeding disturbances caused by previous culls and protests.

According to the NERC's report, prepared by the Sea Mammal Research Unit at Cambridge, this trend appears to have been reversed. The estimate of 61,000 grey seals in Scottish waters in 1979 had risen by last year to 65,000, a growth of almost 7 per cent.

Almost three million signatures in Britain were claimed yesterday on a petition calling for an end to the international trade in seal products and a ban on their import by Britain. The petition has been organized by the Protection and Conservation of Animals and Plantlife, which describes Britain's introduction of an order that seal products should be labelled, as widely ineffective, since more than nine-tenths of them are re-exported. Several leading trade unionists have signed the petition, which is hoped to be raised with labour organizations in Europe and Canada.

Quotas for disabled must go, commission says

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The quota scheme, which has protected disabled workers for nearly 40 years, should be abandoned as unworkable and out of date, the Manpower Services Commission says today.

Instead, there should be a new general statutory duty requiring employers to "take reasonable steps to promote equality of employment opportunity for disabled people."

The new duty would be linked to a code of practice giving guidance on how it can be met and information on where employers can get assistance in doing so. The new duty would cover the retention of newly disabled employees and the career development of disabled workers, as well as recruitment.

The commission believes the new statutory duty would be an improvement on the quota scheme, mainly because the code of practice would give disabled people more of a say in their own employment. But most voluntary organizations concerned with disabled people will see it as weakening the legal obligations on employers, particularly since the MSC makes clear in its report today that prosecution of defaulting employers will still be seen as a last resort.

Both the Disability Alliance and the Royal National Institute for the Blind have urged retention of the quota in response to a leak of the MSC document in *The Times* last week. The alliance, which brings together more than 60 of the main disability organizations, pointed out that the commission's own research had shown that 86 per cent of disabled people wanted to keep the quota.

But the commission believes it is meeting disabled people's wishes by proposing a new form of statutory protection,

A mixture of shock and disbelief in once the county of plenty

By Frances Gibb

Derek, aged 16, has recently been made redundant from the only permanent job he has had since leaving school a year ago with no qualifications. "It was making formica tops. I loved it. But it only lasted a month."

Since then Derek, from Weybridge, Surrey, has tried for several jobs without success. "You show them all the interest you have and they don't show any in you. I went for one in a laboratory, cleaning out the animals and feeding them. It was a job. Nothing doing."

He now idles his time away, visiting the Jobcentre and careers office. "You get cheered off. Bored isn't the word. You feel like blowing your brains out. They say kids don't want to work, but that's a joke."

Being without a job has split up his family. Derek's 18-year-old brother has got work and his father, an alcoholic, has kicked Derek out for not doing his homework. He is now living with friends in Virginia Water, but is having trouble claiming unemployment benefit because he has to be registered as unemployed at the Jobcentre.

"I desperately need the money. I need £15 a week to pay my mate's mum; she's got a family and a half to feed."

His friend Andrew, aged 18, with whom he now lives, left school two years ago with CSEs in sociology and science and has been in and out of work. He gave up his last job in electronics because he was paid too little to travel the long distances involved, a common difficulty in Surrey.

He spends his time sitting around at home, in between visits to the Jobcentre.

"You can't afford to go out on the dole," he says. "I want to get back in a job so that I can get a bike or car on the road, get some clothes; do things like that, and get back to normal. Everything is tough and so at the moment I can't afford anything."

Andrew's parents (his father is a postman), who have three other children, have taken in not only Derek, but also another friend who is out of work and has been "kicked out of home."

In Surrey, unemployment is a new phenomenon and has come as something of a shock. Mr John Tunnadine, the county careers officer, says: "There is no tradition of unemployment here, and that makes it harder to come to terms with. There is not the same family support. Parents say: 'you could get a job if you really tried.'"

The troubles faced by Cleveland some years ago are just beginning to hit the home counties for the first time, and youth unemployment has permeated even into areas previously protected.

Adult unemployment in the county is about 10 per cent in a population of just under one million (compared with Cleveland's 17 per cent in 560,000), but because unemployment is new, its rise is all the more dramatic.

The situation is the worst for 40 years. The latest figures, published by the county today, show a total of 3,132 unemployed, which may reach 3,600



Face of despair: An unemployed youth sits in hope of an elusive job.

in September, double the figure for July, 1978, and more than double that (1,161) for July, 1979. Of those, five sixths are school-leavers.

At the same time job vacancies have dropped from a peak 1,172 in July, 1979, to just 185. Banks and insurance companies, traditionally among the biggest employers in the county (25 per cent of last year's school-leavers went into clerical work) have cut back.

London, which used to be a Mecca for jobs, no longer attracts; it has its own unemployment and is expensive to

reach. Commuter areas like Camberley continue to grow but fail to provide work.

Unlike in Cleveland, where YOP schemes have become the main way of staving off even higher unemployment, in Surrey the schemes are relatively underdeveloped, providing some 750 places, of which at the last count 350 were filled.

Straines is one of the badly affected parts of the county. This month, with Sussex, it has a total of nine permanent jobs on the books and seven YOP placements, against 492 reg-

istered unemployed, mostly school-leavers, four times the figure for last year.

There is a steady stream of youngsters through the careers offices, averaging about sixty a day. "Up to now," Mrs Skelt says, "we have been fairly well stocked up with vacancies; it was a foregone conclusion that we could find someone a job."

But it has suddenly hit us. It has come as a complete shock to some youngsters. Some have reacted well and kept going; others have given up."

Unlike Cleveland, where most

Barmaids may pull pints of milk

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent

Customers in public houses will be able to buy milk in their favourite local if talks between farmers and brewers are successful. The campaign to persuade breweries to sell milk through their hundreds of tied houses is the latest of many attempts by worried farmers to find new outlets for milk.

It has not yet been decided whether milk would be sold in public houses from traditional pint bottles, like bottled beer, or from the small cardboard containers with straws attached which are being used increasingly for children's milk with added fruit flavours.

Customers are more likely to find their milk offered from dispensing machines of the type used in canteens. Leaders of the Milk Marketing Board said yesterday that talks had begun with breweries about terms.

The board wants milk to be sold as a competitor for fizzy drinks, which have helped in recent years to persuade many households to reduce their orders from milkmen.

Mr Peter Jackson, managing director of the board, rejected a suggestion that milk destined for public house sale should be advertised for its value as a stomach lining for those about to consume alcohol.

"We should have people screaming at us that it was an improper thing," he said. "Farmers and dairymen accept that sales of milk on doorsteps will not return to the high levels of the 1960s."

University lecturer murdered

From Our Correspondent

A murder inquiry began yesterday after a university lecturer was found battered to death at his home in Canterbury.

The body of Mr Maurice Shapira, aged 52, a bachelor, was discovered by his housekeeper in the bathroom of his bungalow. His silver-grey Peugeot 504 car had been stolen.

Mr Shapira lectured in English and American literature at Canterbury College, Kent University. Friends described him as a quiet, inoffensive fair-minded man who hated violence.

Det Supt Earl Spencer, who is leading 60 officers in the inquiry, said his motive was not known, but appeared not to be robbery.

Professor Mark Kinkead-Weekes, a colleague of the dead man, said: "We are all shocked and distressed. I can't think of a link of an enemy he may have had, or any reason why someone would want to kill him."

"He was a very gifted and rather quiet person who loved art and music."



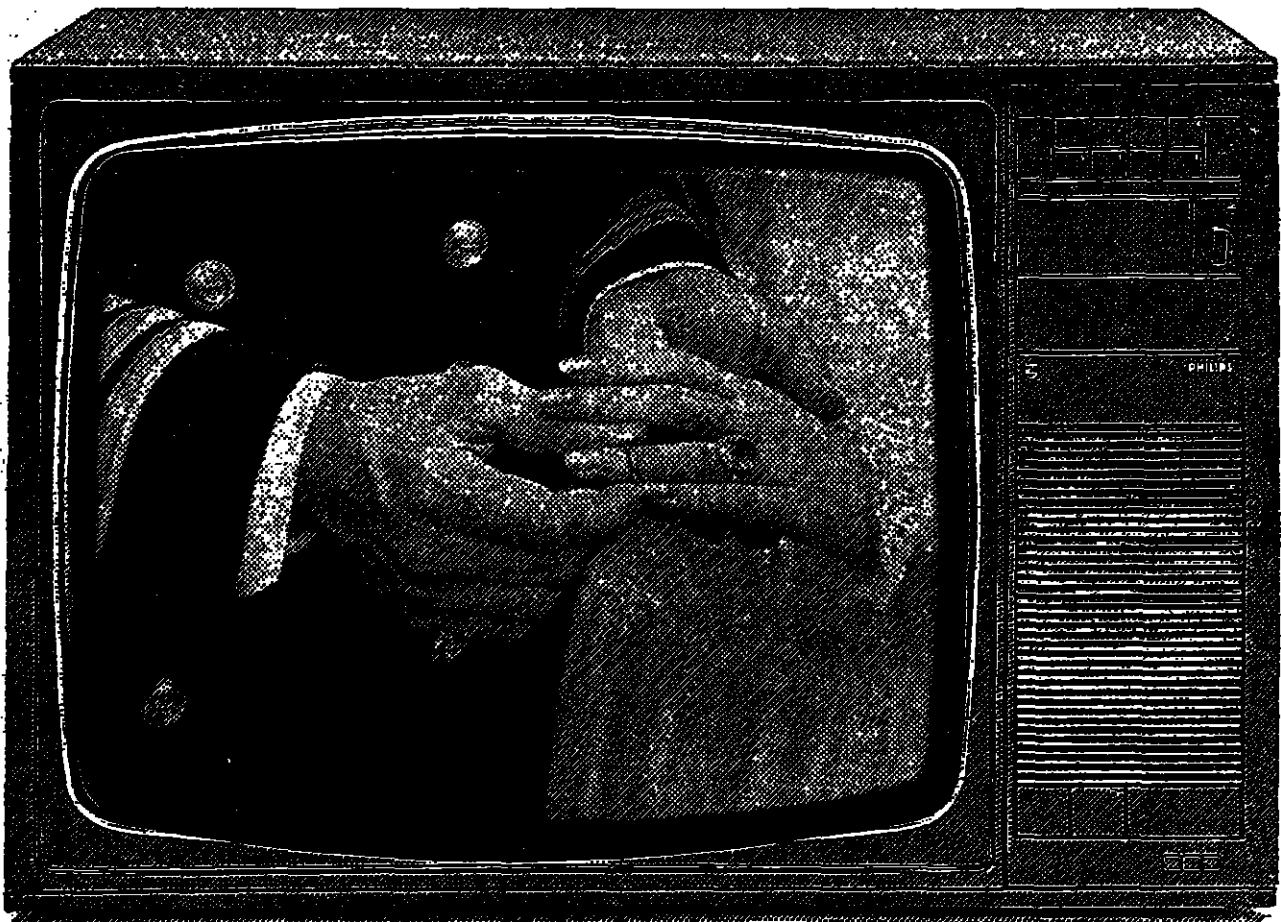
Some souvenirs of the royal wedding will be more authentic than others, like the Video 2000 cassette. Philips have spent six years developing the only cassette that will record the whole event. It's part of the new Video 2000 system.

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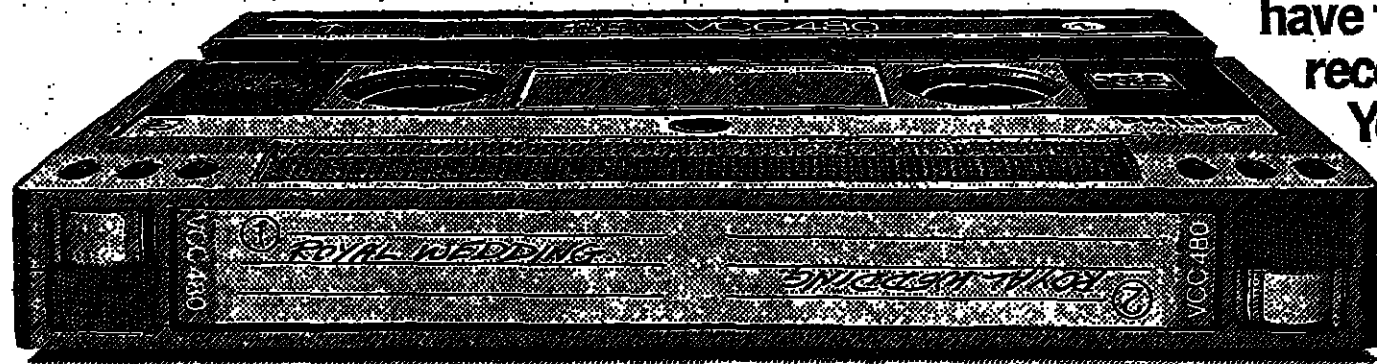
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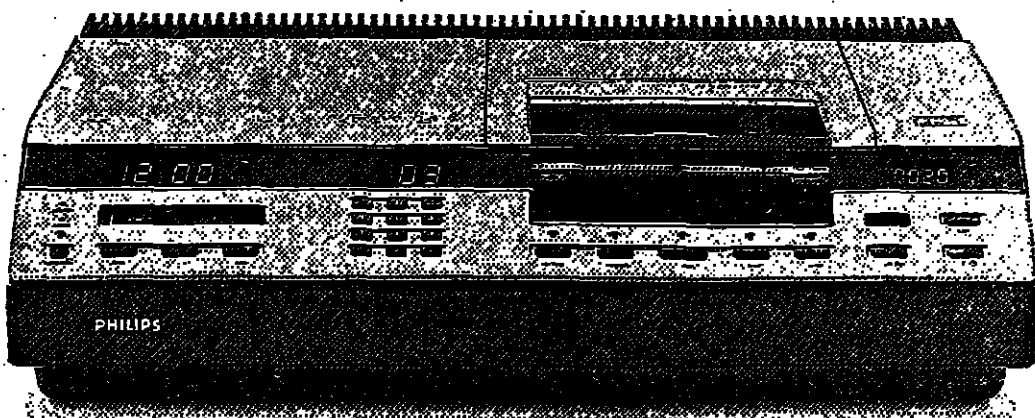
Hour for hour it is one of the cheapest forms of video recording around. It leaves the others waiting at the church.

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VIDEO 2000. If you've been waiting for Video, it's arrived.

ITV told to go for quality

By Kenneth Gosling

Independent television's best prospect of preserving its prosperity in the face of competition from new technology is to devote resources to programme quality. Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, says today in the IBA's annual report.

In a criticism of the franchise process, completed last December, Lord Thomson says the disadvantage is that while it has been a diversion of energy from programme making to corporate survival.

Independent Broadcasting Authority, Annual Report and Accounts, 1980-81. (Stationery Office or booksellers, £2).

Agreement averts dockers' strike in Polish ports

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, July 22

Poland seems to be moving towards a social climate in which both the unions and the Government are testing the mechanism of negotiations in order to settle disputes. A strike by more than 40,000 dockers which threatened to paralysed the Baltic ports when the party has just issued an appeal calling for understanding and restraint, was averted early today.

An agreement reached after 16 hours of tough bargaining, includes what the official news agency PAP described as improved social security benefits and other privileges, including convalescent leave for the dockers.

The agreement is retroactive to the beginning of this year but it is clearly less than the dockers have been asking for. Mr Stanislaw Bejger, the Minister of Maritime Economy, who led the government negotiators, called it a compromise in which neither side was fully satisfied but which also showed that there was good will on both sides.

The dockers of the Solidarity trade union issued a statement making it clear that in accepting the agreement and calling off the strike which was due to start tomorrow, the union was led by "deep anxiety for the fate of the country" and awareness of burning problems resulting from the critical economic situation.

This, in a sense, confirmed general belief that the union is responding favourably to the authorities' appeal for a more moderate party leadership which after the conclusion of the party congress appealed to the nation for cooperation and moderation and for joint efforts to bring the country out of the crisis.

The employees of the Polish airline, Lot, who also threatened to strike later this week, yesterday suspended their strike call in response to a letter from General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister.

The dispute there was over official refusal to accept a general manager elected by the employees. Instead, the Government appointed an Air Force officer as chief of all the airline's operations.

The union reacted with a four-hour token strike two weeks ago and a threat of a full strike for this week. The union took the Prime Minister's letter as a sign, and even a commitment, to resume talks which broke off earlier this month.

The Government recalled that a new law which is in the stage of final drafting in Parliament, will establish the principle who is to manage state enterprises. It is to be decided by the forms in industrial enterprises.

Mr Jozef Glomp, the newly nominated Archbishop of Gniezno and Warsaw and Primate of Poland, who has pledged himself to follow the policy of his predecessor, Cardinal Wyszyński, of a more understanding and has already met General Jaruzelski, today saw Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader.

The Church is anxious for Poland to restore social peace and thereby give the Government a chance to begin to carry on its programme aimed at stopping the downward trend in the economy, and it is clearly continuing to exercise its influence on the unions.

□ Zurich—A multinational task force of bankers tonight announced agreement on rescheduling Poland's 1981 debt to Western banks and will submit their proposals to a Polish delegation here tomorrow.

A communiqué issued after a meeting by the task force representing 21 banks in 12 countries said unanimous agreement was reached on all issues which were still outstanding.

However, it gave no details of how the debt owed to 460 creditor banks will be restructured to allow Poland more time for repayment.

Members of the task force were in complete harmony as to the most appropriate way in which all individual types of credit afforded to Poland by the creditor banks should be handled, the communiqué said.

Based on Polish figures earlier this year, the amount involved is estimated at some \$24,000m (£12,500m), though some estimates put it higher. Although the statement gave no details, banking sources said before today's meeting they expected the final version to be similar to a plan some 60 United States banks agreed on last week.

That would allow Poland to defer until December 10 repayment of capital on its medium and long-term debt due since March 26 this year.

The debt would then be re-scheduled over seven years provided the Polish government mean while drew up an economic stabilization programme and gave more information about its economy. First repayments would be due in 1985.

□ Berlin: A West Berlin court today passed a detention order on Bernard Pientka, a 21-year-old Pole who hijacked a Polish airliner yesterday and forced it to land in West Berlin, a Justice Department spokesman said.

Mr Pientka had been charged with air piracy and would be tried by a West Berlin court rather than an American military tribunal, the spokesman added.

The charge carries a minimum sentence of one year in prison. Last December a West Berlin court jailed a Pole for four years for a similar hijack.

The three Western allies—Britain, France and the United States—announced that they would protest to the Soviet Union because two MIG-21 interceptors had crossed into West Berlin airspace on the tail of the airliner.

The Polish news agency PAP said the man had been ordered to land during an internal flight from Katowice to Gdansk threatening a stewardess with a hand grenade and a home-made gun. He forced the aircraft to land at the American military base of Vemphelhof.

Reuters.

Soviet marshal feels confident of Polish forces' reliability as allies

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, July 22

Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Soviet Minister of Defence, today told General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish Prime Minister, that the Soviet armed forces were confident the Poles would prove reliable allies and rebuff anti-socialist forces in their country.

His message, published in the army newspaper Red Star, comes hard on the heels of a similar expression of confidence from President Brezhnev and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister.

Yesterday the two men sent a "relatively warm message of congratulation" to mark Poland's national day, and indicated that they believed the Polish party would now be able to settle down to running the country.

Marshal Ustinov, in his message to General Jaruzelski, who is also Minister of Defence, said Poland's armed forces were celebrating the festival in a difficult political atmosphere.

"Hostile forces in the country and abroad are carrying out open attacks on socialism in Poland, provoking complications in Poland's relations with its allies," he said. But Soviet troops believed their comrades-in-arms would "guarantee a reliable defence of socialist gains in their country."

Mr Viktor Grishin, the leader of the Soviet delegation to the Polish party congress, returned home yesterday, and has presumably been briefing his Politburo colleagues on the turbulent and unusual congress.

The Russians, who were markedly cool in their message of congratulation to Mr Stanislaw Kania on his reelection as party secretary, appear to have been somewhat reassured that the party has at last managed to get a grip on events, Mr Brezhnev's message said, the congress has set the task of stabilising the situation and leading the country out of crisis.

In contrast to his stiff greeting to Mr Kania last week that began "respected comrade," yesterday's message called him "dear comrade," the normal address for leaders of fraternal parties.

He said the Polish party was firmly following the principles of Marxism-Leninism and was "undoubtedly" able to unite all the working people and rally them in resistance to



Polish sailors march in the National Day parade in Victory Square, Warsaw, yesterday.

anarchy and counter-revolution. Mr Grishin, who repeated the widely publicized Soviet worries over Poland in his opening address to the congress, was a little more optimistic by the end. Speaking at a meeting of foreign delegates with the new Polish Central Committee just before returning home, he said the congress had faced important tasks.

The Russians have not hidden their wish to see the smack of



Two in harmony: Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Reagan sharing a joke at a reception in Ottawa.

Five hurt in Swiss bomb blast

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, July 22

Two terrorist bombs—the fourth and fifth this week—exploded during the rush-hour tonight at Geneva's main railway station.

The first to go off was hidden in a luggage locker in the hall leading to the platforms. A young Swiss man was seriously injured, and his sister, aged 17, suffered extensive burns from the explosive burst. Another girl, also aged 17, accompanying them was hit by flying metal and was severely burned on the forehead.

An American, aged 21, sustained a chest injury and a Japanese woman tourist, aged 47, had her ear-drums damaged. Nobody was hurt in a second, smaller explosion an hour after the first blast.

The second bomb was in a left-luggage locker.

Like after the previous explosions, responsibility was claimed by the "June 9 Organization", believed to be an American terrorist group.

It was on June 9 that Swiss police arrested Mardios Sankodigian, a Lebanese Armenian, aged 23, after a member of the Turkish consulate staff here had been shot dead in the street.

In a communiqué, passed to an Arab news agency in Beirut and broadcast today by Radio Lugano, the terrorist group said it would "continue attacks against Swiss objectives everywhere in the world" until such time as Mr Sankodigian was freed.

According to police, the time bombs being used by terrorists are very small. The primary purpose of the indiscriminate daily bombings appear to be to arouse unease among the population.

Since 1976 terrorist groups describing themselves as Armenian have been responsible for about a score of explosions at Swiss offices in Rome, Paris, London, Los Angeles, Beirut and Tehran.

Clash over interest rates

Hard US line forces allies to take deflationary measures

From David Blake, Ottawa, July 22

Resigned to the fact that no cut in American interest rates is imminent, West Germany last night was the first country to take action to protect its own economy from the consequences.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, told a press conference at the end of the Ottawa summit that he intended to cut his Government's budget deficit on return to Bonn. Plans drawn up by Herr Hans Meinhöfer, the Finance Minister, for cuts in spending will now go ahead.

Herr Schmidt said: "We have decided that the state should step back as a public borrower to give the Central Bank more leeway in dealing with interest rates."

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian prime minister, had earlier indicated that measures are likely to be taken in the autumn to put his Government's deficit.

All of the United States' partners had hoped that American interest rates might fall in the near future, thus easing pressure on their currencies. But the hard line adopted by President Reagan means that they now need to take deflationary

action at home to protect their currencies and thus hold down inflation.

Although the leaders of France, West Germany, Britain, Japan, Italy, Canada and the United States, attending the summit expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the meeting, there will be intense activity in the coming months to try to deal with all the problems the summit failed to resolve.

Interest rates and currency stability are the most important of these. Apart from cutting back deficits at home in order to reduce what Herr Schmidt called the highest interest rates since the birth of Christ, the governments of the states of the European Community and Japan are looking with increasing interest at the prospect for joint intervention in foreign exchange markets.

There will also have to be intensive discussion on what to do over trade with Eastern Europe. A last-minute attempt by Washington to get a paragraph in the summit declaration warning of the dangers of excessive reliance on the Soviet Union, and limiting high-technology exports which might be distantly related to

military use, was rebuffed by the Germans.

High-level talks are to take place over the coming months and there will be a meeting of Nato's Comcom committee in the autumn to discuss military matters. There are no signs that the West Germans intend to give ground on this issue and there is no possibility that they will abandon a proposed gas pipeline to carry gas from the Soviet Union to West Germany.

Trade questions will feature prominently over the next year. The European nations made no direct criticism of Japan at the conference. There will be a meeting of ministers of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) next year and there will be special sessions to monitor trade issues. The effect of this is to put off a final decision on trade relations with Japan until 1982.

However, European officials from the EEC are very pleased with the decisions on future meetings, which they think give them an opportunity to put double pressure on the Japanese.

IN BRIEF

Begum Bhutto is freed from jail

Karachi.—Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the executed former Pakistani Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was released here after five months of preventive detention in Karachi jail.

Mrs Bhutto, who heads the banned Pakistan Peoples Party of her late husband, was arrested along with her daughter Benazir, after she hijacked a Pakistani airliner last March. According to official sources Miss Bhutto is also likely to be released soon.—AFP.

Salvador negotiations

Washington.—El Salvador's left-wing rebels, in an unexpected reversal of policy, announced their readiness to negotiate with the ruling right-wing junta for a political settlement of their armed conflict. They gave as the sole condition the presence of non-Salvadoran mediators acceptable to both sides.

Giant tanker aground
Zeebrugge.—The 275,000-ton Liberian-registered tanker World Dignity ran aground on a sandbank while manoeuvring to enter Zeebrugge port. Belgian officials said seven tugs were called to free the vessel.

Publisher arrested
Milan.—Police have arrested Giovanni Fabbrì, an Italian publishing magnate, on charges of illegally trying to export antiquities and art works worth more than £500,000 out of Italy.

Monsoon kills 300
Delhi.—Rivers swollen by monsoons in western and north-eastern India have ravaged farming communities and villages, resulting in more than 300 deaths, mainly in Jaipur state, officials said.

Husband's revenge
Montbéliard.—A French steel worker aged 41 went on a killing spree near here today and in succession shot dead his estranged wife, her lover and four other people, including one of his bosses.

Road reopened
Lusaka.—The road from Zambia and Zaire to the Angolan port of Lubito, closed since 1975, is now open to traffic, an advertisement in the Zambia Daily Mail said.

Tanker burns
La Spezia, Italy.—Two crewmen died and a third was seriously injured in a fire on the 51,244-ton Sinoia, a Liberian-registered oil tanker, in La Spezia harbour.

Guards defect
Schachendorf, Austria.—Two unarmed Hungarian border guards fled across the border to Austria and applied for political asylum, police said.

West renews efforts to free Namibia

From Nicholas Ashford, Ottawa, July 22

The five countries of the Western contact group, which have been dealing with the problem of Namibia (south-west Africa) since 1977, are to make a new attempt to bring the disputed territory to independence.

The foreign ministers of Britain, Canada, France, the United States and West Germany met at the Ottawa summit to examine ways to break the deadlock reached when the settlement talks collapsed in Geneva last January.

The ministers also heard a report from Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, on the talks which the Americans have been holding with South Africa during the past few months on ways of reviving the United Nations settlement initiative on Namibia.

Officials representing the five contact group states are to hold talks in Europe next week. This meeting is designed to pave the way for talks at a ministerial level when the foreign ministers gather in New York for the opening of the United Nations General Assembly in September.

A communiqué from the five, which was released today, reaffirmed the will of the five countries to bring Namibia to independence within the framework of the United Nations Security Council resolution 435.

A British official said yesterday that although the Americans had made considerable progress in their talks with the South Africans, this had still

not been sufficient to establish a framework for further negotiations.

□ Three main points are being reviewed by the contact group, according to sources in London (David Spanier writes).

These are to ensure that the United Nations acts impartially in dealing with the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) on the one side and the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance on the other; the need for constitutional restraints to be built into the independence arrangements; to prevent a "winner takes all" result in the election; and, discussion of the composition of the proposed United Nations force, which would supervise the run-up to independence.

□ Resolution 435 enjoys the support of the overwhelming majority of the international community, a statement issued by Swapo in London said.

Swapo, the sole political and military liberation movement in Namibia, recognized by the United Nations, said it took great exception to the proposed changes in the resolution.

It called on the contact group to acknowledge that "South African intransigence is the main obstacle to the realization of the will of the people to be forced into a settlement."

"The only honest course for the five Western countries is to support comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa," the statement added.

TWO-LINE WHIP FOR BBC DEBATE

By Kenneth Gasling

The British Government has taken the exceptional step of issuing a two-line whip to Conservative peers over the next week's Lords debate on a motion condemning the cuts in the BBC's External Services.

The debate is next Thursday and it is understood a strong note has also been sent to Conservative peers urging them to support the Government.

The matter is also being raised today, when members in the Commons discuss the Consolidated Fund Bill, the traditional end of session means of raising whatever subjects they choose.

Eight members have indicated a wish to speak. They include Sir Anthony Kershaw, the chairman of the Commons foreign affairs committee, which this week issued a report condemning the cuts and calling for more capital expenditure on the external services, particularly to China.

Up to yesterday 166 members had signed the all-party motion opposing the cuts which entail abolishing services in seven languages.

Strike in Argentina falters

From Our Correspondent, Buenos Aires, July 22

Bus services were running normally and train services were only partly disrupted in Argentina today by a strike called by the Peronist-led General Confederation of Labour (CGT) in protest at low wages and rising unemployment.

The other main union group, the National Confederation of Labour (CNT) did not support the strike. The CNT is holding talks with the Government in efforts to agree on a "social pact".

According to an Argentine Railways statement, services were normal on the General Roca, San Martín, Sarmiento, Urquiza and Belgrano lines, while services between Buenos Aires and the cities of Córdoba and Tucumán were only slightly disrupted.

Most factories were closed in several southern Buenos Aires industrial areas, but some industrialists said the closures had been arranged at meetings between factory management and workers "to avoid any inconvenience".

Bani-Sadr letter advocates rebellion

By Hazihr Teimourian

Mr Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the deposed president of Iran, has raised the flag of rebellion against Ayatollah Khomeini and the ruling clergy, according to reports in Iranian circles in London.

In a personal letter to Mr Massud Rajavi, leader of the left-wing Islamic Mujahedin guerrilla organization, he has advocated the setting up of a National Council of Resistance at a secret spot in Iran, to comprise the Mujahedin and any organizations and individuals willing to fight for the restoration of democracy in the country.

The former president is believed to be hiding in Iran. Details of his letter, which was signed on July 18, reached London yesterday. Mr Bani-Sadr, embittered by the manner of his overthrow and the subsequent accusations of treason levelled against him by the Iranian press, describes the situation there as disastrous.

"The nation has to endure civil and foreign war, numerous executions of people, including children, for voicing opposition to the regime, also the torturing of political prisoners and economic collapse."

The council proposed by Mr Bani-Sadr would act as a national parliament until free elections could be held.

The alliance would have to be situated where it could exercise full control, such as the Kurdish provinces in the mountainous western region of Iran. There, some 12,000 guerrillas of the Kurdish Democratic Party have been fighting against the regime of the ayatollahs for the past two years. Mr Bani-Sadr says Mr Rajavi is known to have been in contact with Dr Abolrahman Qassem, the Kurdish leader, and have discussed with him the prospect of a formal alliance.

If the negotiations are successful a formidable challenge could be posed to the clergy. By signing his letter to Mr Rajavi as the "elected President of Iran," Mr Bani-Sadr makes it clear that he still regards himself as the country's legal head of state.



Bani-Sadr: "Rebellion".

Mystery aircraft crashes inside Soviet Union

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, July 22

The Russians today announced that an unidentified aircraft entered Soviet airspace from Iran last Saturday, collided with a Soviet aircraft and crashed.

The brief official announcement gave no clue to the identity or type of aircraft. Tass News Agency said it crossed the Soviet frontier near Yerevan, the Armenian capital, a few miles from the Soviet frontier with Turkey and Iran.

It did not respond to inquiries by Soviet air traffic control or to attempts to render assistance. After flying over Soviet territory for some time performing what the official agency called "dangerous manoeuvres," it collided with a Soviet aircraft, fell to the ground and burst out.

The Russians did not say whether the aircraft was civilian or military, nor whether there were any casualties.

The day in the announcement of the incident—the first violation of Soviet airspace since the incident involving a South Korean passenger jet—was the 17th anniversary of the Revolution of 1978.

It suggests that the Russians had had time to examine the wreckage and establish where the aircraft came from.

The refusal to identify the aircraft and the bald description of the incident suggests it did not belong to a Nato country, and was probably Iranian.

The Russians are trying to cultivate good relations with Iran in spite of the wave of executions of leftists, and would be anxious not to publicize an incident that could aggravate the hostile relations between the two countries.

Services Act which means that he can bring in other labour when he believes the safety and security of the public is under threat.

He has ordered milk tanker drivers to go back to work. If they do not, he will bring in volunteer drivers under police protection to do their work.

The Transport Workers' Union has decided to allow milk deliveries to continue and production should be back to normal by tomorrow.

Dairy farmers angered by having to work as usual only to throw the milk away, have been bringing in their supplies of milk to Melbourne.

There seems little doubt that the public have almost reached breaking point over the latest strikes. Striking breaking techniques such as those of invoking the Emergency Act and bringing milk to the city have met no resistance from the unions.

Rajai is backed by three rivals

Teheran, July 22.—Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, who is considered a certainty to win the Iranian presidential election on Friday, has received an additional boost. The other three candidates in the race have called on their countrymen to vote for him.

Mr Rajai's election will also be a victory for the Islamic Republican Party (IRP), which has backed his candidacy, although he is not a party member and the other three candidates are.

With Mr Rajai in the post of chief executive, the IRP will attain harmony between the branches of power, concealing the presidency—used by Mr Abolhassan Bani Sadr, the ousted president, to oppose aspects of the regime—with the Government and the courts.

The new president will have his work cut out for him. Mr Rajai will take office when Iran, at war with Iraq for the past 10 months and faced with a drop in oil exports, is being swept with the biggest wave of violence since the revolution.

Since the bombing of the IRP headquarters on June 28, in which Ayatollah Khomeini, Beheshti and more than 70 party members were killed, dozens of attacks have occurred.

On Monday one of the four presidential candidates, Fakhroddin Asgari Oladi, received minor bullet wounds in the chest and head when he was gunned down by a group of bodyguards of Hajjollah Akbar Naderi-Nuri, the representative of Ayatollah Khomeini in his "crusade for reconstruction."

Nearly 200 opponents of the regime have been executed over the past month, most of them after being found guilty of "corruption on earth" and "war against God."

Concern has been expressed over the danger of an attack on Mr Rajai.

Yesterday he chose not to attend the only electoral meeting which has been organized for him in Tehran. Pamphlets in support of him were dropped by helicopter over the capital early today.

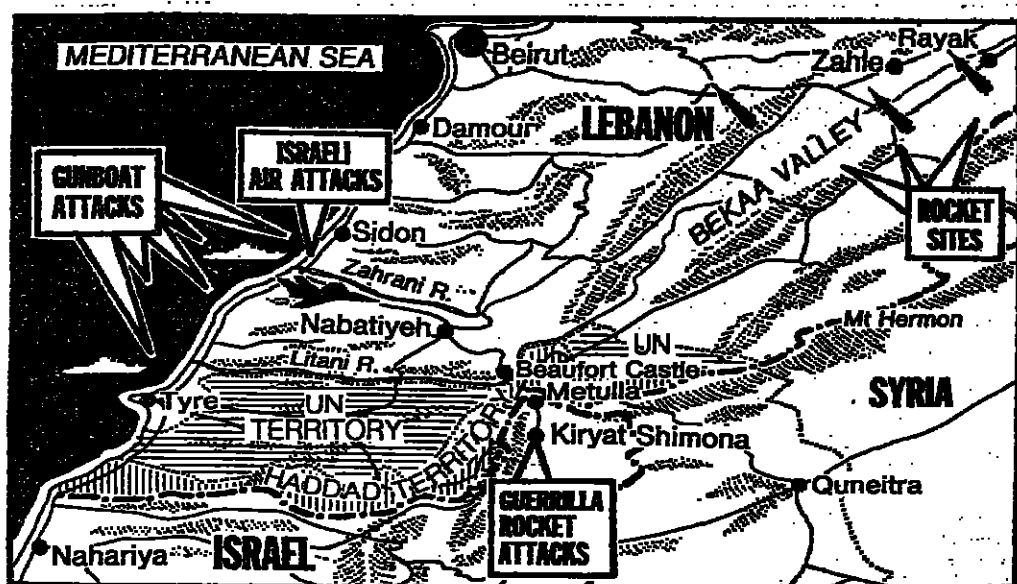
The authorities have banned all motor cycle traffic on election day. Most of the attacks in recent days were made by men on motor cycles and the newspaper Islamic Republic has said that "mercenary agents of America reportedly intend to perturb the elections" using motor cycles.

The main remaining doubt about the election is voter turnout. The authorities hope Mr Rajai will obtain more than the 11 million votes that swept Mr Bani-Sadr into office in January, 1980, demonstrating the isolation of opposition elements in the National Front, leftist groups and the former president—which have called for an election boycott.

Parliament has lowered the voting age for the presidential election from 16 to 15, adding some 800,000 voters to the electorate of 21 million.

Ayatollah Khomeini has called on Iranians to vote as a religious duty. The Iranian Liberation Movement of Mr Mehdi Bazargan, a former Prime Minister, did not attempt to put up a candidate, while the Tudeh (Communist) party and all other groups supported Mr Rajai.—AFP

محکم الاصل



Egypt says Israeli raids are reckless

From Our Own Correspondent, Cairo, July 22

Mr Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian Vice-President today said the Israeli raids on Lebanon were reckless and could sabotage Egyptian-Israeli peace.

Mr Mubarak's warning, made in a speech marking the twentieth anniversary of the Egyptian revolution, was the highest-level public condemnation in Egypt so far of the Israeli raids. Mr Mubarak stressed that Egypt was committed to the peace process but there has been growing concern among officials and diplomats here that Israeli aggression is undermining President Anwar Sadat's position at home.

One western diplomat said: "There is an increasing criticism of Sadat here. Because of his peace efforts, Israel is confident of no retaliation from Egypt when it attacks other Arab countries." Egypt, with its population of 43 million, is the most powerful Arab nation, and is generally regarded as the only Arab country capable of posing a serious threat to Israel.

Mr Sadat has argued since his visit to Jerusalem in 1977 that his initiative will pave the way for a just peace in the Middle East. The peace initiative has previously escaped criticism in Egypt because it offered hopes of prosperity, but the Israeli attacks on Iraq and Lebanon have led many to claim it is giving Israel a free hand to destroy its Arab neighbours.

Mr Sadat said today: "We see Israel returning to the mentality prevailing before peace, and denying the spirit of historic reconciliation. It is resorting to reckless activities in an Arab country, seeking temporary gains that will evaporate at the first test."

Mr Mubarak was representing Mr Sadat at the ceremony, which was held one day early as the anniversary of the overthrow of King Farouk is a public holiday.

Washington: Mr Ephraim Elrom, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, today told Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, that the suspension of the delivery of F16 fighter-bombers would only hurt the cause of peace in the Middle East (Nicholas Hirst writes).

Mr Elrom told Mr Haig that the hostilities in Lebanon were not started by Israel. Israel could not tolerate artillery and rocket fire from the Palestine Liberation Organization operating from across the Lebanese border. He said the suspension would destabilize the area and

Fighting intensifies as hopes fade for Habib mission

From Tewfik Mishiawi, Beirut, July 22

Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, arrived in Beirut today with an Israeli authorization to negotiate a ceasefire after 12 days of hostilities along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, has asked Mr Habib to try to establish "peaceful relations between Israel and Lebanon", but has rejected any direct or indirect contact with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Mr Habib's mission appears to be doomed from the start, because the Lebanese Government has no power over the estimated 400,000 Palestinians in the country and refuses to talk about an agreement that could be interpreted as a peace treaty with Israel.

The Israeli Cabinet yesterday decided that Mr Habib's contacts should be with President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon, "and not with Arab terrorist organizations who declared Israel is the destruction of Israel and its people."

Mr Habib said: "On the basis of the statement of the Government of Israel, I will proceed with my mission as drafted by President Reagan to seek to bring a ceasefire along the Israeli-Lebanese border as a first step to bringing calm to the area."

The difference between a ceasefire and a Lebanese-Israeli peace tends to reflect the disagreement between Israel and the United States over the interpretation of Mr Habib's mission. While Washington wants his envoy to try to put an end to the fighting, Israel wants him to make peace arrangements with the state of Lebanon.

The Israeli Government gave no indication it would halt its strikes against Palestinian positions in Lebanon.

Mr Habib met Mr Sarkis today, but declined, as usual, to reveal any details to reporters later. It was not clear whether he planned to have any contacts with Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader. It appears that negotiations with the PLO are being conducted through Mr Karim Waked, the United Nations Secretary General, Major General William Callaghan, the Irish Commander of the United Nations Truce Supervision Force in Lebanon.

Mr Habib later flew on to Jiddah for talks with Saudi Arabian leaders. Mr Arafat announced last night that the Palestinians agreed in principle to discontinue their shelling of Israeli

territory from southern Lebanon, but his sources made this dependent on a halt to Israeli attacks on the Palestinians and other targets in Lebanon. This demand would be just as difficult to achieve as Israel's demand for the termination of all Palestinian guerrilla activities.

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said today: "The resistance movement will continue to fight. It will not respond to a ceasefire call." He said that as a result of the guerrilla bombardment of northern Israel, 60 per cent of the inhabitants of Jewish settlements in Upper Galilee had been forced to leave their homes.

Attempts to achieve a ceasefire have had no effect on the fighting, which continued throughout the day. Israeli and Palestinian forces engaged in one of the fiercest artillery and rocket exchanges across the border since the latest escalation started two weeks ago.

Several Israeli warplanes also attacked targets along the southern Lebanese coast and further inland. An Israeli military spokesman said the bombings were concentrated on new makeshift bridges which he said had been put up by the guerrillas across the Qasbiya Bridge and at Zahranj just south of Sidon.

The Palestinians said their forces repelled a column of Israeli troops, backed by tanks and armoured vehicles, at the Khadrati Bridge, close to the strategic Palestinian stronghold at Beaufort Castle. The twelfth century fortress has been a target of repeated Israeli air and artillery shelling during the past few days.

Israel has denied its forces crossed the border into Lebanon, but a United Nations spokesman in Beirut said there had been considerable movement by Israeli forces in the border area.

Israeli gunboats again shelled the Lebanese coastline at the point of Zahranj, between the ports of Sidon and Tyre, setting a petrol storage tank, the local refinery on fire, the Palestinians said. They said the Israeli attempt to land troops at Zahranj from the sea.

In another development, the PLO today blamed Israel for an explosion in front of its Beirut offices yesterday. This is part of the genocidal war being waged by Begin, a spokesman said. The explosion took place only an hour after several key PLO officials had left a meeting at the offices.

Solution of EEC budget fight in sight

From Peter Norman, Brussels, July 22

A solution to the seven-month-old dispute between the European Commission and France and West Germany over the 1981 Community budget was in sight today after budget ministers from the 10 member states had agreed to trim 197m European Currency Units (about £108m) of out spending planned for this year.

Provided the European Parliament agrees to the compromise when it next meets in September, France and West Germany will drop their objections to this year's budget and both countries as well as Belgium will approve a 366m ECU supplementary budget for 1980 that has also been approved.

The ministers agreed conditionally on a rectifying budget for this year that will reallocate some 521m ECUs no longer needed to support farm prices to cover increased payments by the EEC's regional fund in increased food aid and more aid to Third World countries as well as cut back the overall level of community spending.

A delegation from the European Parliament was given the details of the plan at a meeting with the ministers in Brussels today and the first indications were that it would be approved.

The three countries have been refusing to make payments to cover those parts of the two budgets to which they objected. If Parliament approves the compromise, they will make good their arrears and the threat of a constitutional dispute before the European Court will have been lifted.

Today's compromise was pushed through by the British presidency of the Community on the basis of proposals put forward by the Commission.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Budget Commissioner, said it was a "very good beginning". The changes made to the Community's 1981 spending plans improved the budgetary balance. The compromise, if adopted by Parliament, would clear up the problems surrounding the 1980 and 1981 budgets and enable the community to agree a budget for next year without fear of doubt about its legal validity, he added.

The rise in world food prices has enabled the Community to reallocate 521m ECUs from the money it would normally spend on agricultural subsidies. The regional fund will gain 200m ECUs from this and other savings, 100m ECUs more will be spent on food aid and 60m ECUs will go on increased aid to developing countries not associated with the EEC.

The ministers will tomorrow discuss the Commission's proposal for the 1982 budget. The Commission has suggested a 16 per cent increase in spending, to 22,381m ECUs, a level that is almost certain to be rejected as too high by the Council.

Scandals may harm Reagan advisers

From Frank Vogl, Washington, July 22

A bizarre set of unrelated episodes involving bankruptcies, missing financiers and close advisers to President Reagan, is now unfolding and is bound to damage the Administration.

The White House is refusing to comment on developments that most concern Mr William Casey, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Mr Richard Allen, head of the National Security Council. One affair that has already embarrassed the President concerns the resignation last week of Mr Max Hugel, director of operations at the CIA, who was accused in a Washington Post interview by Casey of being a former business partner, Mr Samuel McNeil, of improper dealings. Mr Hugel resigned, but denied all charges and now a mystery is developing with Mr McNeil at its core.

Today, the Triad Energy Corporation, a medium-sized oil and gas company, asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to help it trace \$2.5m (£1.3m) in cash that is missing, as well as missing bank records and financial statements. Also missing from Triad is its president, Mr McNeil.

Nobody at Triad has been able to discover the whereabouts of Mr McNeil since he issued his charges against Mr Hugel in the Washington Post last week.

Mr Casey was a close friend of Mr Casey and his resignation coincided with a ruling by a New York judge in a case of a now defunct company called Multiphysics Incorporated that had been launched in the 1960s by Mr Casey.

Investors in the company are suing to get some of their money back and the judge declared that Mr Casey and his fellow directors had omitted and misrepresented facts to investors.

This matter, together with the share dealings of Mr Hugel and his relationship with Mr Casey, was enough to stimulate investigations.

Today Senator Daniel Moynihan of New York complained in blunt terms that the White House and the Justice Department are refusing to help with the congressional investigation. The senator said that "if they are going to cover up, they are going to lose themselves as a director of the CIA."

Now if all this was not bad enough for an Administration that has sought to promote an image of integrity and candour, the dealings of Mr Robert Vesco, the fugitive from United States law, who presided over the final demise of Investors Overseas Services, have once again surfaced to trouble the White House.

The Boston Globe reported that after detailed investigations, including an interview with Mr Vesco, it appears that Mr Richard Allen has not fully disclosed all his past dealings with the financier.



Mud on his face and a protester's loud-hailer in his ear fail to disturb the composure of Police Commander Nick Huggard during the first rugby match of the Springboks tour at Gisborne, New Zealand.

Muldoon unmoved by critics and pressures

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington, July 22

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, today dismissed any possibility of New Zealand's being expelled from the Commonwealth over its policy of sporting contact with South Africa.

"If New Zealand were forced out, there would be such a revulsion of feeling in Britain, Australia and Canada that if those Governments were to acquiesce they would fail," he said. "I have not the slightest doubt about that."

Mr Muldoon also said he was confident that Britain would stand behind New Zealand at the Commonwealth leaders' conference in Melbourne in September.

Yesterday Commonwealth High Commissioners in London moved the venue of the finance ministers' meeting from Auckland to the Bahamas because of the presence of the Springboks rugby team in New Zealand.

Today Mr Muldoon rejected suggestions that New Zealand could find itself isolated in Melbourne in the same way.

He noted that the British representative at the High Commissioners' meeting was a senior civil servant. In Melbourne we will have the British Prime Minister. If I can put it this way, she is a horse of different colour.

The Prime Minister said that his office was collecting information on human rights in other Commonwealth countries to support his claim that other

countries were in no position to criticize his Government's policy. In a snap debate in Parliament on yesterday's decision, Mr Muldoon said he was alarmed at the double standards being applied by Third World countries.

Mr Wallace Rowling, the Leader of the Opposition, who was not present for the debate, said from Hamilton that the issue was not a Third World one. Australia, which was New Zealand's best friend and best trading partner had, he understood, been in the forefront of the move to change the venue.

Meanwhile, a dispute has arisen between Mr Muldoon and Mr Cos Blazey, the chairman of the Rugby Union, over whether the Government had ever made a direct attempt to have the tour called off. Mr Muldoon said today that he believed he had made a direct request at the only meeting he had had with Mr Blazey in his office in Parliament last November.

Mr Blazey, however, said tonight that his recollection of the meeting was that Mr Muldoon pointed out the estimates of the cost of policing the tour. The issue arose after Mr Muldoon earlier today expressed disagreement with comments by Mr Shiridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary General, in London that the Commonwealth view was that the Government had done all it could to discourage the tour.

Violence as Springboks win match

Gisborne, July 22—Anti-apartheid demonstrators fought police and rugby fans here today as the South African Springboks won the first game of their New Zealand tour.

They defeated Poverty Bay 24-6 while police and spectators held back demonstrators who tried to enter the ground by breaking a fence. Police made 13 arrests among the 300 protesters and drafted in extra men to form a wall in front of the broken fence. The match, watched by 10,000 people, went ahead.

As many as 14,000 New Zealanders took part in protest marches throughout the country today. Police arrested 111 people.

There were arrests in Wellington when protesters occupied the headquarters of the ruling National Party. Protesters chained themselves in National Party offices in Dunedin. A taxi driver drove into a group of protesters. Injuries, as elsewhere, were minor.

In Auckland and Christchurch police made arrests as protesters tore down fences at the main rugby grounds. Police said those arrested would be charged with various offences, including assaulting police and resisting arrest.

Chief Superintendent Brian Davies, who is in charge of policing the tour, told a press conference that the police tactic was minimum deployment with reserves if needed.

Match report, page 18.

RAIN PUTS DANUBE AT DANGER

Vienna, July 22—The worst rainfalls recorded in 124 years and summer snowstorms sweeping Europe have taken 12 lives and caused damage amounting to millions of dollars, officials said yesterday.

"We have had the heaviest rainfalls since 1857 in the past four days," an Austrian Government official said. "The damage done by the floods can not yet be estimated but will certainly run into millions of dollars."

In Austria four people were drowned in the floods of the Danube river that was still rising at a rate of 1m (2.5cm) an hour and approached the emergency mark at Vienna.

In West Germany four people, including a two-year-old girl, were reported dead in the flooded rivers in south Germany. In France three alpinists were found frozen to death in the high Alps in a remote hut blocked by avalanches.

In Czechoslovakia one person was drowned in the floods of the Vltava river in the western outskirts of Prague during rescue actions, the CTK news agency said. The report said "Hundreds of houses had to be evacuated along the Elbe river that flooded large parts of the rural area near the town of Melnik in central Bohemia."

A new wave of floods on the Danube from Germany threatened Austria as the border crossing point at Passau had to be closed.

In Vienna the rail track along the bank of the Danube was flooded and the level of the river, near the dangerous mark of 24ft that would inundate housing areas.

"We hope it won't happen," one city official said. "If we are spared new rainfalls we will probably escape another disaster."

Weather experts predicted no new rainfalls for the next 24 hours, but said it will probably rain again before the weekend. Alpine peaks in Austria, France and West Germany were covered with a new layer of 10ft of snow.—UPI.

Hollywood stranglings prosecutor overruled

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, July 22

In an extraordinary move, a Los Angeles judge yesterday ordered the district attorney to bring Angelo Buono, the man accused of being the Hollywood hillside strangler, to trial on the murder of a woman although the prosecution has asked to drop all charges.

Mr Roger Kelly, the deputy district attorney, asked Judge Ronald George to dismiss the charges against the 46-year-old upholsterer because the prosecution's witnesses, Mr Kenneth Bianchi, Mr Buono's cousin, kept changing his testimony and was no longer considered a reliable witness.

Much to the surprise of the prosecutor, the judge, who would usually grant such motions as a matter of course, denied it. Instead he ruled that he was prepared to call the state attorney general's office or appoint a special prosecutor or appoint a special prosecutor "vigorously and effectively" to resume prosecution against Mr Buono, who has been in jail since October, 1979.

Denying the prosecution's request to dismiss the charges, he said he would not be a rubber stamp for the prosecution. He said the date and gave the defence and prosecution a week in which to appeal against his ruling. Mr Buono faces 11 other criminal charges.

In requesting the dismissal, the deputy attorney had planned that Mr Kenneth Bianchi, who has already pleaded guilty to two murders in Washington and three in Hollywood, and had been given life imprisonment by a Washington court, had changed his version of events surrounding the murders.

He said that for this reason Mr Bianchi could no longer be considered the cornerstone of the prosecution's case against his cousin.

Last year, Mr Bianchi had made a deal with prosecutors that he would testify against his cousin in return for being given the death penalty.

CIA secrets released in error

Washington, July 22—The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has said the Freedom of Information Act has caused classified material to be released mistakenly. A supporter of the Act said secret material was leaked deliberately for political purposes.

The statements were made yesterday to the Senate Intelligence Committee by officials of the principal United States intelligence agencies continued to ask Congress to exempt them from the law, which was passed 15 years ago. "There have been mistakes, through which the CIA inadvertently released information that was of enormous concern," Mr Bobby Irman, Deputy CIA Director, said.

Without giving details, he said that one such case endangered the life of an intelligence source, while others resulted in disclosure of sensitive material supplied by foreign governments. He said the law required the agency to divert experienced personnel to review requests for information and made it more difficult to recruit sources because of the CIA could not keep secrets.

The testimony of the intelligence officials was challenged by spokesmen for the American Newspaper Publishers Association and Sigma Delta Chi, a journalists' group.

"It seems somewhat improbable that agencies with a sophisticated capability for evaluating information could inadvertently release classified data," Mr Robert Lewis, of Sigma Delta Chi, said.—AP.

Legacy of a reluctant refugee

From Mario Mediano, Athens, July 22

The case of Dr Kalman Szabo, the reluctant Hungarian refugee, is straining Greek-Hungarian diplomatic relations barely a week after the cordial and successful visit here by the Prime Minister of Hungary.

Mr Istvan Dobos, the Hungarian ambassador, was summoned to the Greek foreign ministry today to give an explanation for an embassy statement insinuating that the Greek authorities had put pressure on Dr Szabo to defect.

The embassy, announcing the repatriation of the Hungarian academic, rejected the Greek Foreign Ministry's version that Dr Szabo, after jumping out of a second-floor window of the Hungarian embassy in Athens,

had applied for political asylum. But later changed his mind. "Szabo" said the statement, "repeatedly emphasized, in the presence of Greek and Hungarian officials while he was in hospital, that he never intended to seek political asylum in Greece, nor did anyone succeed in convincing him by means of slander, to do so."

The statement also spoke of "inhuman conditions" under which, it said, Dr Szabo had been treated. Greek officials are seriously upset because they feel they had leaned over backwards to ease the Hungarians out of a particularly embarrassing situation, at a time when the Greek Government itself had been under opposition fire for its

handling of the case of the Turkish political refugees. At least three Turks who fled to Greece and had sought political asylum were repatriated in violation of Greece's international commitments.

A vividly pictorial portrayal of this vexing issue was given in a cartoon of the opposition service-men—sunglasses, raincoats and all—brezing into the Prime Minister's office to say: "Funny thing. The Turks did not want the latest defector. We almost had to force him on them." To which a horrified Premier exclaimed: "Which defector, you fools, the Hungarian?"

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Mauroy appoints 'eyes' to firms facing nationalization

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 22

Fourteen "delegates" have been appointed by the French government to the companies due for nationalization, one to each of the five big private banks, one to the smaller establishments, and one to each of the eight industrial groups. Three companies with a majority of foreign capital are not affected.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, in announcing the decision, insisted that the 14 men were not intended by the Government to act as inspectors, or take power over the heads of the existing management, but to "establish a permanent contact between them and the Government".

They are also to examine "the concrete problems" raised by nationalization, and these are many, the more so as the Government, with its practical experience of industrial concerns, has not yet worked out in detail its doctrine on the subject.

These men, if they are not meant to be inspectors, will nevertheless act as the eyes of the Government inside each of the concerns to which they are assigned. They are to inform the Government of their mechanisms, and to forestall any attempts to evade nationalization by hiding off part of their capital and their activities to subsidiaries, which do not come under the axe.

Their selection was not an

easy one. They had, as Le Monde points out, to have the necessary qualifications and experience, to be sympathetic to the Government's aims, and to respect not only of management, but also of the staff and the unions.

All of them are senior officials of banking or industry. One of them, for instance, M. Aime Teyssier, D'Orfeuille, who is appointed as delegate to Paribas, was a Government commissioner with the group from 1966 to 1968, and afterwards at one of its subsidiaries. At one time, he also served as an expert on the staff of the Finance Minister.

The delegates will hold their post until the tabling of the nationalization Bill in the autumn, which is a very short time in which to familiarize themselves with their jobs, and therefore to act effectively.

M. Mauroy has gone out of his way to reassure the banks and industry, and to impress upon them that the Government was determined to go ahead with the proposed nationalizations, but not in a precipitate or haphazard manner.

The clean sweep of all the senior executives of the state radio and television companies inherited from the Giscardian regime was taken a step further today with the resignation—

the request of the Prime Minister—of M. Jean-Louis Guillaud, the president of the First Television channel. He is a journalist with nearly 20 years' experience of the television medium.

M. Guillaud had repeatedly stated that he had no intention of leaving his post, and he was under no pressure from his staff to do so.

M. Jacques Boutet, a member of the State Council, who presided over the official television control commission during the last elections, and singled himself out by his zeal in pouncing on any transgression of the rules, will be M. Guillaud's successor. His appointment will be made official at tomorrow's Cabinet meeting.

The last senior executive likely to be removed is Mme Jacqueline Saurier, the president of Radio-France, who has also stated her intention not to resign. However, she might not be removed until after the vote on the new radio and television Bill, at the end of the year.

Thus, what is tantamount to a "witch hunt" goes on. It is likely to spread in the coming weeks to the lower echelons of the radio and television companies, in spite of repeated assurances by M. Georges Fillioud, the Minister for Communication, that there would be no "witch hunt".

Sandinistas confuse Nicaragua business

From Stephen Downer, Managua, July 22

The head of Nicaragua's largest private business organization has accused the revolutionary government of creating panic with a number of decrees affecting private property announced last weekend.

"A great panic has been created by what has been said," Señor Enrique Dreyfus, president of the Superior Council of Private Enterprise, told reporters last night.

"We have had calls from abroad and from people connected to our organization asking what it all means. There is confusion and concern."

The council, known by its Spanish initials of Cosep, held an emergency meeting behind locked doors last night to discuss Sunday's speech by Señor Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of National Reconstruction.

Señor Ortega announced the confiscation and the nationalization of 14 companies (originally counted as 15) and the expropriation of all properties left empty for six months, among other measures.

Another of the decrees was the confiscation of all property from any one found guilty of counter-revolutionary activity.

The Council of State, which has to approve the decrees, is dominated by the Sandinistas. National Liberation Front, the former guerrilla organization now dictating government policy in Nicaragua.

Señor Dreyfus, a clay-tile manufacturer and farmer, said the confiscation of properties might be referred to consideration of international tribunals.

Some of the other measures announced by Señor Ortega, a member of the powerful, nine-member Sandinista directorate, constituted violations of human rights, as recognized by the United Nations.

He added that "everyone has a right to dissent and participate in politics freely without being called a counter-revolutionary".

He praised some government actions, such as agrarian reforms, "but the important thing is production". He wondered whether Nicaragua, which has primarily an agricultural-based economy, could maintain the necessary productivity.

Economically, Nicaragua's situation was sick and serious efforts had to be made to reverse the economy, which was running in the red at the rate of \$1.5m (£750,000) a day.

The gross national product this year will be no better than it was in 1980. About 40 per cent of Nicaragua's professionals, such as engineers, doctors and lawyers, had left since the overthrow of the incumbent Anastasio Somoza in 1979 and the seizure of power by the Sandinistas.

"We have certain conditions here that make it difficult for private enterprise to develop. There's a problem between what the Sandinistas say and do."

For a mixed economy, advocates of Señor Ortega, who is a successful "you have to have a basic political framework, political pluralism, democracy, law and order".



Gurjeet, the bridegroom, and Aditi in front of the floral canopy.

Ceremony focused on flowers

Splendour at a Sikh wedding

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, July 22

Gurjeet sat on the floor waiting for his bride. He looked quite a prince, composed, straight-backed, bearded and handsome. His saffron turban was decorated with gold thread. He wore a long ivory shawl and a white kurta, and he clutched a curved sword, symbol of his determination to protect his wife, and in keeping with the fighting traditions of the Sikhs.

He courted himself a fortune name. Like his father, he is an emigrant doctor, with a good practice in Nigeria. When he began to think seriously of marriage a year or so ago he thought of Aditi in Delhi. She belonged to a family known to him. They had known each other as children and he remembered her as a pretty girl.

He returned to India and inquired about Aditi. She was free, 19 and strikingly beautiful. Her parents were attracted. And he still saw the girl in the greatest majority of Indians, the course of the relationship became a matter for the parents.

Most marriages are still arranged. Parents find brides and grooms for their children with the help of marriage brokers and astrologers, through family connections and through the classified advertisements of the Sunday newspapers.

It is the parents who weigh a girl's looks and wifely qualities, and consider a groom's income and prospects. Marriages are, to some extent, unions of families, as well as individuals, and the details of marriage are settled by the parents.

Gurjeet's marriage was slightly different, although part of a growing modern trend, in that he himself chose the girl. But he left the formalities and the question of suitability to his parents, out of respect for them, for social custom and tradition. In this he had something in common with that Prince in Britain who had to follow much the same procedure.

Having seen Aditi, Gurjeet, who is 25, returned to Nigeria and told his mother and father of his hopes. They, in turn, left for India to examine their son's

choice and to talk with her parents. There was agreement and the engagement was announced. Gurjeet's parents brought Aditi sweets, clothing and trinkets, and a diamond engagement ring.

Aditi is a Hindu, but her family agreed that the wedding ceremony should be according to Sikh rites. The focus of a Hindu wedding is a fire, symbol of the gods and of truthfulness. But the centre of a Sikh wedding is a flowered canopy on a dais in which reposes the holy book of the Sikhs, the Guru Granth Sahib.

The night before the wedding of Gurjeet and Aditi there was a celebration. Gurjeet arrived for it on a white horse accompanied by a noisy band, by dancers and people bearing lanterns on poles.

The wedding ceremony, in an hotel in Delhi, was dignified, solemn and beautiful. A priest clad in white sat on the dais behind the holy book and three grey-bearded men in black turbans played squeeze-box organs and a drum, and gently chanted hymns.

About 140 people assembled, women on one side, men on the other, the women in bright peach, pink and orange saris or the north Indian outfit of long dress over silver pants. Everyone was barefoot and non-Sikhs were given napkins to cover their heads.

After hymns had been sung for an hour, Gurjeet and Aditi, dressed in white, were seated in front of the holy book. Aditi appeared in the doorway. Everyone turned.

She looked as fragile as a was beautiful, wrapped in silk and hung about with jewelry. As she walked forward the silk dispersed and her bare arms twinkled like the rustle of a Christmas tree.

She wore a pink smock dress over pink pants and was swaddled in a pink, silver-embroidered shawl. On her forehead was a gold filigree disc. One side of her nose was pierced by a gold ring, as fine as a hair, with a small jewel suspended from it. There were heavy necklaces at her throat and her wrists were laden with bangles.

Aditi's slim hands were decorated, back and front, with designs painted with dye which takes a week to wash off. She wore her engagement ring and on the backs of her hands rested gold ornaments. Her bare feet were also adorned with temporary tattoos, and silver rings twinkled on her toes.

Attended by two girls, she made her way slowly down the aisle. Gurjeet was seated, cross-legged on a white sheet, in front of the canopy. Gentle hands guided Aditi and she sank to the floor beside her bridegroom, casting a shy glance at him from beneath lowered, long-lashed lids, half hidden by the shawl.

A saffron scarf was placed around Gurjeet's shoulders and one end of it was given to Aditi, who twisted it nervously in her fingers.

The priest uncovered the holy book and began to read. From time to time people left their places in the congregation to bow low before the book, leaving a five or 10-rupee note in offering.

After the reading the couple rose and walked slowly around the canopy, Gurjeet bearing his sword, Aditi clutching the shawl. Gurjeet's father, who was seated on the dais behind the holy book, looked on with a handkerchief.

After the hour-long ceremony people began to think about the splendid lunch being prepared in the next room. The tension of the ceremony had ebbed away. Aditi no longer hid in her shawl. She smiled and began to laugh. Her husband laughed, too. Suddenly the room was filled with laughter and chatter. Some young women sniffling quietly, tears falling on to the rose petals. It was a lovely wedding.

PORTUGAL CLASH OVER ECONOMY

From Juan Torres, Lisbon, July 22

The Portuguese Cabinet has accused the Marxist wing of the Council of Ministers of attacking the basic rules of democracy by rejecting a Government Bill to change the Law of the Sector. This post-revolutionary law redefined the parts of the economy that were open to private enterprise and those that were nationalized.

The Bill would open commercial banking and insurance to the private sector. In a short statement the Government said that, having accepted the mandate of the Portuguese people in the elections of October, 1980, it would go ahead with its programme of economic reconstruction of the country's economy, despite all obstacles.

The Government has decided to divert funds from the productive side of the public sector, which is not considered to be essential to the country, and to use this money for investment in social fields.

In a radio interview last night, Senhor Carlos Macedo, the Minister for Social Affairs, admitted that he had handed in his resignation during the Cabinet meeting but had been persuaded to withdraw it by Senhor Francisco Pinto Balsemão, the Prime Minister.

Señor Macedo said there were important questions of principle at stake and that he did not agree with the attitude of certain members of the extreme right-wing of the Christian Democratic Party.

Mitterrand meets little resistance from Senate

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 22

M. Raymond Aron, the eminent sociologist, remarked recently that the only opposition left in France after the victory of the left in the presidential and parliamentary elections was that of the facts, and these were stubborn.

The Socialists have control of the Government, the Assembly and to some extent the trade unions. But there is also the Senate, on which political activity is focused this week, starting with the Amnesty Bill adopted this morning by 284 votes to 109. The left has only 105 seats out of 305 in the Upper House.

Under the Fifth Republic, however, its powers are very limited. It cannot overthrow the Government or obstruct the decisions of the National Assembly, but only delay them.

There is no indication, however, that the Senate will be a very different proposition under the Third Republic. The Popular Front Government of Léon Blum was overthrown by a vote of the Upper House in 1937 when it refused to grant him the full powers he asked for.

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It is in any case divided between senators hostile to any form of compromise with a government which, in their view, is the harbinger of collectivism and those who are inclined to let the Socialists have their chance. Most of the Gaullists, and the Republicans in the UDF, belong to the first group.

while the Centrists are on the whole more conciliatory. Many senators also remember that the hostility of their House to General de Gaulle nearly led to its suppression by referendum in 1959, and it was only saved by a vote.

The Government is also unwilling to be involved in open war with the Senate. At the opening of the parliamentary session of July 2, the senators were struck by the flattering words used by M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, that "the political renewal chosen by Frenchmen will find in the Senate an irreplaceable framework for democratic debate".

Finally, while allergic to change, whether from the right or the left, the Senate has built up for itself a tradition of defence of individual freedom.

It was once the province of the Court for State Security, now suppressed by the Assembly.

In the debate on the extensive Amnesty Bill, which will lead to the freeing of about 5,000 people serving sentences for political offences, M. Marcel Rudloff, of the UDF, even proposed that its scope should be in *absentia* sentences.

But the majority of the Senate can be expected to use its authority to control government action closely, and give wide publicity to warnings and criticism, as M. Michel Debré, the former Prime Minister, did so effectively before General de Gaulle's return to power.

Law Report Chancery Division

Looking at previous judgments

Knighly v Sun Life Assurance Society Ltd, and Others
Before Mr Justice Nourse
[Judgment delivered July 17]

His Lordship struck out under Order 18, rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court as being unreasonable in the claim by Mrs Betty Knighly, against Sun Life Assurance Society Ltd (Sun Life) Bass Ltd (Bass) and her husband, Mr David Knighly. The claim was one to have set aside a possession order made against her by Master Chamberlain on April 30, 1976 to Bass.

In so doing his Lordship held that it was proper to look at judgments in previous proceedings delivered by Mr Justice Oliver on November 30, 1976 and June 23, 1977; an order of Master Ball of February 1977 and the judgment and order in those of Appeal of April 21, 1978.

Mr Thomas A.C. Coningsby and Mr Dirk Jackson, for Mrs Knighly; Mr Leonard Bromley, QC and Mr Peter B. Jones, for Bass; Mr John E.W. McDonnell for Bass; Mr Edward S. Czailek, QC and Mr Andrew Moylan for Mr Knighly.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that Sun Life and Bass had applied under Order 18, rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court to strike out a claim by Mrs Knighly. She had been separated for many years from her husband, Mr David Knighly, whom she appeared to have joined as a defendant in an endeavour to help her to assert a claim which he had no wish to assert himself.

On November 26, 1968, before the separation, Mrs Knighly contracted to purchase a 51-year leasehold of a flat in Whitehall Court, Westminster, London for £17,000. The purchase was completed in December 1968. The Sun Life and Bass were the joint beneficial owners of the flat, second, and third, that when the mortgage was registered on February 27, 1969 Mr Knighly was in actual occupation with herself of the flat. The property was registered land.

On February 6, 1975, after the separation, Sun Life and Bass commenced proceedings for possession alleging arrears of payments, and an

order for possession was made by the master on April 30, the order being eventually executed on March 25, 1976. On April 9, 1976 Mrs Knighly applied to the master, unsuccessfully, to have the order stayed or set aside.

She did not request an adjournment to the judge and no further steps were taken in the proceedings until November 1980, when she applied to have the order for possession set aside. Life as mortgagor, contracted to sell the flat to Bass for £37,638. In November, Mrs Knighly issued a writ seeking to restrain completion of the contract, and applied the same day by motion to Mr Justice Oliver. Her motion was dismissed on November 30, 1976, a speech was ordered. The sale was completed shortly afterwards.

A preliminary issue was heard by Mr Justice Oliver on June 23, 1977 as to whether Mrs Knighly's statement of claim disclosed any cause of action, which he found it did.

An appeal to the Court of Appeal was dismissed on April 21, 1978.

That must have appeared to everyone on the defendants' side, as an end to the affair. The order for possession stood, her attempt to prevent the sale failed, and she was left with the apparent owners both at law and in equity, and had a possession order. Both Mr Justice Oliver and the Court of Appeal had taken the view that the claim was not disclosed against either defendant.

But on June 19, 1980 the House of Lords gave their decision in *Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd v Morgan & Another* [1981] AC 487. It appears that that decision may have played some part in causing Mrs Knighly to come before the judge on the same day, broadly speaking, to set aside both the possession order and the sale. In any event, on September 26, 1980 she issued the originating summons which Sun Life and Bass now sought to have struck out.

It was held in *In re Cairnes* [1978] W.L.R. 540, that the prohibition in Order 18, rule 19 (2) against the admission of evidence on an application under rule 19 (1) (a), did not apply to an affidavit in support, and as was accepted, the court must look at both Mrs Knighly's affidavits, neither of which were, however, very concisely or precisely expressed.

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However the effect of rule 19 (1) (a) and (3), when suitably extracted and read in the light of *In re Cairnes* was that Mrs Knighly's application, against the admission of evidence the court might strike out any originating summons and affidavit in support, the ground being that they disclosed no reasonable cause of action.

Those documents must be looked at first; they might in fact disclose a cause of action. Judgment in terms which made clear that the claim in the new proceeding was res judicata, but the court was also entitled to look at the material case and statute law, and a previous order, even if not the subject of a reported decision, might nevertheless be part of the material.

As Mr Bromley, for Sun Life, rightly pointed out a court order proved itself, and need not be put in evidence. The court, however, was not to be properly understood without looking at the record of the proceedings in which it was made.

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Court told that girl was beaten

From Eric Marsden, Johannesburg, July 22

Dr Nkomo Motlana, the Soweto physician who is also South Africa's best-known radical political leader, gave evidence in the Supreme Court in Pretoria today in support of allegations by a black girl of 17 that she had been beaten by security police during questioning after a series of sabotage attacks.

The girl was giving evidence during a treason hearing arising from the explosive attack on the South African Parliament in Johannesburg and on targets near Soweto and Barberton.

She told the court that she had been hit with rubber hoses and beaten with a black girl of 17 that she had been beaten by security police during questioning after a series of sabotage attacks.

Dr Motlana said the girl was in a near hysterical state when her father brought her to him early last December. He found that she had linear abrasions and bruises which tallied with her story that she had been assaulted with a hosepipe. She also had a linear laceration on the forehead.

Robbie Tsoabe, aged 25, Johannesburg, aged 26, Jod David Mole, aged 25, have pleaded not guilty to charges of high treason, attempted murder, robbery, terrorism and being members of the banned African National Congress.

The girl was giving evidence on the admissibility of an alleged confession by Mr Tsoabe which the defence asserts was made under duress. Earlier, another witness, Mr Themba Ntshongwe said that he had been tortured during an interrogation lasting several days. Mr Tshongwe, an employee of the University of Witwatersrand department of physics, said he was given electric shocks and was beaten by two police officers, was forced to jog all day, and left standing naked in a cold corridor for a whole weekend. He was tortured, he said, because the police were not satisfied with his answers to questions. He laid complaints against the police, but no prosecutions had been brought.

Gun and bomb attack kills two in Athens

From Mario Mediano, Athens, July 22

Greece, which prides itself on having the lowest incidence of violence and terrorism in the eastern Mediterranean, was today the scene of a string of violent acts, one of which claimed two lives and left 70 people injured.

Two unidentified gunmen, said to be foreigners, burst into a travel agency in Piraeus, shot and killed a woman aged 45, and an employee; then escaped in a car driven by an accomplice.

Apparently as they fled they left behind a time bomb which went off 20 minutes later as the police surrounded the store and a string of outlooming raged the scene of the shooting. Police said 72 persons were injured by the blast, but only 35 were kept in hospital.

The security police was looking for a Moroccan-born man identified as Hamed Ben Said, aged 28, the holder of a Lebanese passport, who had hired the car believed to have been used in the getaway.

The motives for the attack are so far unclear. Political motivation seems improbable. It is suggested that as the agency supplies crews to ships, some personal vendetta may be involved. In other incidents, there were

abortive attempts at arson in two Athens supermarkets during the night. The fires were detected and put out after causing damage estimated at £10,000. This was the fourth "twin arson" attempt, presumably by terrorists, in Athens and Piraeus since last December. The fires have destroyed three large department stores and caused serious damage to three others.

The fourth attempt came 24 hours after an announcement by the Ministry of Public Order setting a reward of £200,000 for the arrest of the arsonists.

In northern Greece, a fire raging since last night has already destroyed 8,000 acres of one of the finest pine forests in the holiday area of Cassandreia, south east of Salonika. The authorities suspect arson by groups interested in land development.

Several villages, hotels and private villas in the area were evacuated as the army and the police, with the help of local villagers and holiday-makers, worked to bring the fire under control. Variable winds made their task impossible.

There are so far no casualties, but damage to property is considerable.

Torture allegations tarnish Peru image

From the police torture political detainees have tarnished the democratic image of the civilian Government in Peru and fuelled opposition demands for the repeal of tough anti-terrorist legislation.

The allegations, long voiced by the extreme left, acquired substance in a statement by the Roman Catholic Church's watchdog committee on human rights.

The committee gave details of the case of an accused leftist, Señor Edmundo Cox Beuzerville, and said that there was a certain generalization of police mistreatment of prisoners.

According to the committee, Señor Cox, nephew of a Lima bishop, had his arm broken and his shoulder dislocated while he was being interrogated by the police and was denied medical assistance for 10 days.

The accusations provoked an outcry from left-wing parties, who have demanded an amnesty for the estimated 300 people held under a four-month-old anti-terrorist decree.

The decree, passed with parliamentary approval amid a spate of left-wing bomb attacks, allows police to hold suspects for up to 15 days before handing them over to the courts.

It also establishes strict jail sentences for those convicted of perpetrating, inciting or publishing a defence of what is defined as terrorist acts.

The Government should grant the widest possible political amnesty, free those wrongly held as terrorists and repeal the anti-terrorist decree, Senator General Ledesma Iniqui, a left-winger, said.

The church's accusations were endorsed by the National Human Rights Committee (Conadeh) which said it was about to present a report giving details of more than 20 cases of alleged police torture.

Conadeh also accuses the police of human rights violations. But in most of these cases it is incorrect to refer to terrorism, because the authorities have failed to find proof to convict anybody, Señor Moises Sibuya, a member of the committee, said.

He added: "What we do have proof of is the torture used on the majority of suspects." The affair inevitably soured the otherwise excellent relations between the church and President Fernando Belaunde Terry's administration, formed a year ago.

President Belaunde initially described the allegations as rumours and said later: "Terrorists are like ladies in furs. You cannot touch them."

He also suggested ironically that the Government was becoming eligible for canonization.

But Cardinal Juan Landarini Ricketts, the Primate of Peru, endorsed the church committee's accusations and said he had seen evidence to prove them.

The cardinal's intervention provoked a violent attack by the pro-government daily *Ultima Hora* which, in a front-page editorial, accused him of failing to denounce human rights

Part four of Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards.

On September 23, 1910, the Tolstoy family celebrated their forty-eighth wedding anniversary, and Tolstoy agreed to Sonya's request that Bulgakov photograph them together. Their daughter Sasha, obsessively devoted to her father, was jealous and incensed. She did not want the world to see a picture of her mother (dressed in a white silk gown like a "vestal goddess") standing next to her father, her arm linked possessively through his.

A recent incident had made her ill-will toward her mother even stronger. In one of her moments of distraction, Sonya had torn up two photographs in Tolstoy's study — one of Chertkov with Ilya, and the other of Sasha with Tolstoy — and had put portraits of herself and of Tolstoy's father in their place.

Sonya's suspicion that Tolstoy had signed a new will grew, as did her jealousy and hatred of Chertkov. Convinced that her husband was having an immoral affair with his disciple, she wrote Tolstoy a wildly incoherent letter. In it she accused him of homosexual acts and quoted a passage from his earliest diary in which he had discussed his love for men.

She railed obsessively at him about this friendship. Insisting he stop writing to Chertkov, she wrote, "You are always carrying on a secret amatory correspondence". Whenever she saw him leaving the house alone, she followed him, certain that he was on his way to a rendezvous with Chertkov.

Terrible dreams troubled Sonya, and one night she jumped from her bed sure that she heard Chertkov and Tolstoy making love in her room. Tolstoy was disturbed when she recounted these nightmares, but he was horrified by her demand that their marital relations be resumed. This last "indiscretion" on Sonya's part drove him to plan his escape from Yasnaya Polyana. Taking Sasha into his confidence, he told her to inform Chertkov of his plans.

On the night of October 27 Sonya was terribly restless. As she drifted in and out of sleep, dreadful images of Tolstoy and Chertkov engaged in the most base sexual acts tormented her. Thinking she heard Chertkov's high laugh, she went out into the hallway. The house was dark and silent; everyone was asleep. The first snow of the year had fallen in the damp cold. Hearing no sounds from Tolstoy's room, she realized that she had been caught up in a demonic nightmare.

Search for a new will

As she stood in her nightclothes, her thick grey hair loose about her shoulders, Sonya became convinced that there was a new will and that she must find it that very night. She made her way stealthily to Tolstoy's study. In the adjoining room her husband awakened.

"I heard the opening doors and footsteps," he wrote in his diary the next day. "I saw... a bright light in the study and heard a rustling. That was Sonya Andreyevna, searching, probably reading. . . . Again footsteps and a cautious opening of doors and she went out. . . . I tried to go to sleep again but could not. I tossed about for an hour. Lighted a candle, and sat up. The door opened. Sonya Andreyevna came in and asked 'How are you?' . . . My aversion and indignation grew. I choked and counted my pulse — 97. I could lie there no longer and suddenly took the final decision to go away."

Sonya left him and fell into an exhausted sleep. There were no more footsteps or sounds in the house that night. Tolstoy rose and wrote her a letter, in which he stated:

My departure will grieve you. I am sorry for that, but please understand and believe that I could not act otherwise. My position in the house is becoming and has become unbearable. Apart from everything else, I can no longer live in these conditions of luxury in which I have been living, and I am doing what old men of my age commonly do: leaving this worldly life in order to live out my last days in peace and solitude.

I thank you for your honourable forty-eight years of life with me, and I beg you to forgive me for anything in which I have been at fault toward you, as I wish all my soul to forgive you for any wrong you have done me.

Still in his dressing gown and slippers, Tolstoy picked up his cane and went to wake his physician, Dr Makovitsky. "I have decided to go away," he said. "You must come with me. I am going upstairs and you must come too, only don't wake Sonya Andreyevna. We won't take much with us — only what is essential. Sasha will follow us in a few days and bring what else is necessary."

After returning to his room to dress, Tolstoy woke Sasha, and they packed his things together. The only plan Tolstoy had at the time was to go to Maria Nikolaevna's monastery in the province of Kaluga. Makovitsky made no effort to dissuade his patient, an 82-year-old man who had suffered several strokes, from venturing off into the unknown on a damp, cold morning.

Tolstoy went out to tell the coachman to harness horses to the droshky, but he became confused in the dark. He wrote in his diary, "I missed the path to the wing of the house, stumbled into a tree, pricked myself, ran into the trees, fell, lost my cap, and couldn't find it,



Above: the last photograph of Lev and Sonya. Right: Sonya at Astapovo railway station, where Tolstoy caught pneumonia and died after his flight from Yasnaya Polyana.



Tolstoy's escape to death

Sonya's obsessive feud with Chertkov over possession of her husband's literary papers carried her to the brink of madness and even suicide. And in the end it brought about what she had most feared: the final break with Tolstoy.

difficulty. Of course I have sinned and do sin, but if only I can manage to sin less. I am trying to do only what I cannot help doing and to avoid what can be avoided. . . . I hope very much from the good influence of Tanya and Sergey. The chief thing is that they should understand and try to suggest to [Sonya] that for me — with her spying, eavesdropping, continual reproaches, and disposing of me as she pleased, her constant control over me and feigned hatred of the man nearest and most necessary to me, together with an evident hatred of me disguised as love — life was not merely unpleasant but quite unendurable. . . . They might suggest that all her actions — in regard to me — merely express no love, but seem to be done for the express purpose of killing me — which I hope that the third stroke he had suffered two months ago, which threatens me will free both her and me from the horrible situation in which we have been living and which I do not wish to renew. Write and tell me how you are. I kiss you. L.T.

Sasha met her father at the monastery on the morning of October 30, and after telling him that Sonya had discovered where he was, she asked him to leave with Tolstoy, how- ever reluctant to travel, and Sasha sensed that "Papa regrets having left home".

Still she pressed on; by that afternoon, plans were being made to go to Bulgaria or, if that proved impossible, to go to the Caucasus. Sasha's fear that Sonya might follow them were baseless. Since he had left, she had eaten nothing, and she was too weak to leave the house. Her children feared for her life and wrote letters to their father.

From Ilya: Dear Papa: . . . Sasha will tell you what took place when you had gone. . . . but I fear her explanation will be rather one-sided, and I am, therefore, writing too. . . . Needless to say, we do not wish to, and cannot blame anyone. First of all, we must do everything we can to preserve and as far as possible calm Mamma. . . . She says all the time that there is nothing to live for, and her state is so pitiable that none of us can speak to her without tears. . . . Her life is certainly in great danger. One fears both violent death and a slow extinction from grief and anguish. That is what I think, and what I feel that for the sake of truth we ought to tell you. I know how painful life was for you here. . . . but then you regarded that life as your cross. . . . I am sorry you did not endure that cross to the end. You are 82 and Mamma 67. You have both of you lived your lives and should die becomingly. . . . I do not call on you to return here immediately, because I know you cannot do it. But for the sake of Mamma's tranquillity, write to her, give her a possibility of strengthening her nervous system and then let it be as God may decree!

Sonya herself sent a letter to Tolstoy pleading for a meeting

or for his return. He replied on October 31 that it was "quite impossible" for him to see her and ended his letter: "Farewell, dear Sonya: may God help you! Life is not a jest, and we have no right to throw it away at our own caprice. And to measure it by length of time is also unreasonable. Perhaps those months which remain to us are more important than all the years we have yet lived, and they should be lived well. L.T."

On November 1 Tolstoy wrote in his diary, "Sasha was anxious lest we should be overtaken [by Sonya], so we set off [for the Caucasus]." In order to deceive Sonya, an elaborate plan had been made to travel by a circuitous route. This decision was foolish; a man of Tolstoy's stature could not keep his movements secret. In fact, his flight from Yasnaya Polyana had become international news, and reporters were converging on the area from all over the world.

Meeting would be fatal

The day was cold and windy and the sky was stormy. Because of the route they had chosen, Tolstoy and his party would have to change trains several times. Some hours were spent waiting in unheated stations, and at Astapovo, their third travel point, Tolstoy fell sick with a high fever and chills.

When Makovitsky admitted

that Tanya was in Astapovo, Tolstoy said that he wanted to see her. As soon as she entered the close, crowded sick room, he asked, "Who is with [Sonya]?"

"Andrey and Misha," she replied carefully, not lying to him yet not telling him that Sonya was at Astapovo. "Misha, too?" "They are all quite agreed on not letting her come to you as long as you do not wish it."

"What does she do? How does she occupy herself?" "Perhaps you had better not talk, Papa. You get excited," his voice breaking, he demanded, "Tell me, tell me! What can be more important to me than that? . . . Is she well?" Tanya again told him that her mother was well, that she was waiting to be summoned by him, and that she would not come until he asked for her. Tolstoy was silent, and Tanya left and returned to her mother. There seemed to be no end to Sonya's questions about Tolstoy's condition, about their conversation, and about the people who were with him. She became upset when Tanya said that Chertkov was indeed present, but she grew calmer as she repeated Tolstoy's words. "What can be more important to me than that?" Sonya was certain in her heart that he wanted to see her, that Chertkov and Sasha were keeping him from doing so. A short time later a telegram from Tolstoy (which had been addressed to Yasnaya Polyana) was delivered to her. It read: "Because my heart is so weak a meeting would be fatal, though otherwise I am better. L.T." (This telegram somehow got in a reporter's hands and was printed.)

Beside herself with grief, Sonya walked distractedly beside the tracks, the doctors, the nurse, and her children desperately trying to protect her from the crowds that pressed about. Photographers pursued her and clambered on to bystanders' shoulders in order to get a clear view of her. The whirling sound of newsreel cameras was a constant buzzing in her ears. Reporters tugged at her arms,

and to her family's horror the distraught and confused Sonya talked to them. As she became more agitated, she broke away from her keepers and marched to the stationmaster's hut, only to be denied entrance by Sasha. Finding her position unbearably humiliating, she begged Sasha to allow her to go into the small entryway of the hut, thus making it appear to the cameramen who were filming her that she was visiting her husband.

Sasha finally permitted this, but the door to Tolstoy's sickroom and the room adjoining it were kept carefully guarded. During the next days and nights Sonya haunted the damp entryway and prowled about the outside of the little house, straining to catch a glimpse of her dying husband through the closed windows. The bulletins from the sickroom brought grave news: Tolstoy was sinking.

On the evening of November 6 Tolstoy began to move his hand slowly over his breast, plucking at the blanket — an action the peasants called "getting ready". Once or twice he made a quick movement with his hand along the sheet as if he were writing. By two o'clock in the morning he had slipped into unconsciousness.

His breathing was regular, but Makovitsky knew he did not have long to live. Chertkov, his languid grey eyes staring into the half-dark, sat at the head of the bed, with Seryozha opposite him. Tanya, Sasha, Varya, Andrey, and Misha were sitting in the next room, and they glanced up anxiously every few minutes as one or another of the doctors passed through.

At about 3 am Makovitsky took Tolstoy's pulse and found that his heartbeat was rapidly becoming weaker. One of the other doctors insisted that Sonya be called, saying they had no right to keep a wife from seeing her husband before he died.

Misha and Andrey went to get her. Standing in the tiny, draughty entryway with great tears rolling down her pale cheeks, she looked like a lost child. She grasped her son's arms tightly and walked past Sasha and Tanya and the doctors. Chertkov had slipped into the small kitchen when he heard Sonya coming.

Tolstoy's room was lit by the single candle that burnt by his bedside. She stood in the doorway for a moment, and then, on tiptoe, as though afraid she might awaken him, she crossed to his side, gently kissed his forehead, and sank to her knees beside his bed. "Forgive me! Forgive me," she cried softly.

Sonya leaned closer, certain he was aware of her presence. Fearful the dying man might regain consciousness and see her, one of the doctors said gently that it would be best for her to leave. She rose to her feet and, holding her skirts tightly so that they would not rustle, she slowly left the room.

Refusing to return to her car, she stood with Tanya in the entryway. At 5.30 am Seryozha came to the door. Sonya walked directly to him, knowing the end was approaching, and went with him into Tolstoy's room. Chertkov had left, and Tolstoy's children stood around his bed. Misha and Andrey moved aside, and Sonya knelt by him and murmured, "I have never loved anyone but you."

Tolstoy's faint breathing stopped; then there were a few more breaths, another cessation, and finally a slight rattle. Makovitsky stepped in beside Sonya and closed Tolstoy's eyes. Sonya stood up and, gently weeping, leaned over the body of her husband and rested her head on his chest. Not even Sasha intervened.

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From Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards, which is published by Hodder and Stoughton at £8.50.

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Tomorrow: Life after Tolstoy



Final journey: the bleak winter scene as the snow-covered carriage bears Tolstoy's body at the funeral.



Stately royal processions by Feliks Topolski from his Panoramas with Ducal foreword (Quartet, £4.95)

Cuckoo in anyone's nest

The Opium-Eater
A Life of Thomas De Quincey
By Grevel Lindop

(Dent, £12)

A great poet may well be a monster but he should not be a bitch. "Bye the bye," bristled William Wordsworth to Charles Lamb apropos the birth of an illegitimate son to Thomas De Quincey and Margaret Simpson, an event has lately occurred in our neighbourhood which would raise the character of its population in the estimation of that roving God Pan. . . such, in these later times, are the fruits of philosophy ripening under the shelter of our Arcadian Mountains. A marriage is expected by some; but from the known procreancy of one of the parties, it is not to be looked for, but in a little the commencement of the millennium. In the meanwhile, he has proved employment in nursing the form.

De Quincey travelled from Cheshire to the Lake District no fewer than three times before having the courage to call at Dove cottage, although he had been in correspondence with the occupant for some time. When they came to know him, William and Dorothy Wordsworth called him Peter Quince — doubtless they saw themselves as Oberon and Titania — but they got the little man wrong. He was a voracious reader and marvellous linguist as expert in Ricardo and Schelling as in Milton and Kant. Not only did he marry Peggy Simpson shortly after the birth of their first child but in a life richly endowed with both wild and natural catastrophe, it turned out to be the most sensible thing he ever did.

The adoring circle around Wordsworth, the fruit of whose philosophy he received in the blissful revolutionary dawn of Blois, was already a woman of 24 by the time he wrote his sarcastic letter to Lamb, represents throughout *The Opium-Eater* the intelligent, the most intolerant and distasteful — less because of the way they handled De Quincey himself, who was something of a cuckoo in everyone's nest, than because they exemplify the kind of unlimited self-regard which has everything to do with complacency and nothing to do with art.

Lamb, and the Carlyles, did better by him, after disconcerting starts or without giving, "cried Mrs Carlyle, "to have him in a box and take him out to talk!" — and everyone marvelled at his diminutive size. He himself felt it keenly, and ends a list of twelve "Components of Happiness" with "a

personal appearance tolerably respectable . . . and on a level with the persons of men in general". (The eleventh, most poignantly, was "the education of a child", for with his firstborn he had just achieved it when, at 18, the boy died.) He delighted and exasperated his contemporaries by turn, and my favourite description of the many that enliven Grevel Lindop's book is that of Thomas Hood, who found De Quincey, quite at home in the midst of a German Ocean of Literature, in a storm, flooding all the floor, the table and the chairs: "Billions of books, tossing, tumbling, surging open."



Daguerreotype of Thomas De Quincey in 1850

It is the portrait of a back in full and happy spate. De Quincey flourished in the climacteric of the British periodical press and the golden age of articulate hacks. Hazlitt, Coleridge, Peacock, Lamb, Hunt — and he wrote, ceaselessly and hopelessly, expiring deadlines and against seemingly irreducible debt. *Confessions of an English Opium-Eater* (1821) is one of the most famous books in the language, and has never been out of print, but what else survives the billowing, tossing, and tumbling of a lifetime's storm? His tales and memories in *Recollections of the Lake Poets*, certainly, pioneering critical and imaginative essays, like "The English Mail-Coach" and "On the Knocking at the Gate in Macbeth," but much of the rest seems constricted by the Romantic whimsies of the time, not to say eclipsed by the later, tougher, fantasists of argument and irony such as Chesterton and Shaw. Probably Peacock is an acquired taste,

too, but I should far rather read *Nightmare Abbey* for the umpteenth time than De Quincey's admittedly original but to me, mightily laboured sequence "On Murder. Considered as One of the Fine Arts".

De Quincey was born in 1785 off Market Street in the centre of Manchester. Within a year the family moved to the bucolic retreat of Moss Side, and as a youth De Quincey's favourite refuge from an over-attentive mother and the tedium of Manchester Grammar School was a cottage on Everton Brow whence he could gaze down through tranquil summer nights on the sleeping city of Liverpool. The surrealism of these two later volumes of the magnificently edited Duke-Edinburgh Carlyle letters. Three years (1835-37) one could classify as *The French Revolution* years, during which he followed the writing and publication of this extraordinarily vivid anti-history.

They are settled now in Cheyne Row, Carlyle, aged 40, a caged bear, suspiciously viewing the world through the bars of his literary cage, castigating its literary scene, pessimistically assessing social-political events ("perilous strife . . . confusion . . . dissolution, chaos . . . rottenness . . ."), while simultaneously making new friends (Mill, Hunt), admitting that London gave him a freedom not to be found elsewhere, though never able to shake off his roots, ever returning to his beloved Bordighera for spiritual convalescence. Jane, aged 34, taking a milder, although equally sharp, view, enjoying the social life, establishing her personality as vibrantly as did Carlyle, bewailing the inadequacies of Cockney servants, acquiring that famous sofa (scene of much later suffering), a prey to influenza (then a feared illness), and through those devastating witty letters.

Although Carlyle was ever threatening to burn his unfinished manuscript, he was yet able to rewrite at speed that accidentally burnt first volume, destroyed in the cottage of his sister-in-law, Mrs Taylor, both Jane and Carlyle behaved with great discretion and admirable when faced by Mill's distress. Only Jane knew the secret of the book, and she was a wild savage unless very bad book . . . Yet it contains strange things . . . reverent of nothing but what is venerable in all ages and places . . . wrote Carlyle to Emerson. When Mrs Taylor that the style might have

benefitted by a use of "ordinary grammatical mode of nominative and verb" Carlyle responded with a basic clue, "recording the presence bodily concrete coloured presence of things."

He knew what he was about and meant to achieve (through many ulcers) when he wrote of himself that "I have a fierce glare of insight in me".

The French Revolution brought him immediate fame and general praise. Sartor was selling well in the States. Money, about which Carlyle moaned all his life, was coming in. Harriet Martineau launched him into his lecturing, and although few, at first, understood what he was saying, all were entranced by his vigorous personality. These were three pretty good years, that is apart from the excruciating business of writing. Carlyle went through the whole cycle of Dante's *Divine Comedy* with each book: research was his *Paradiso*, the writing *Purgatorio*, the *Inferno* publication and reception.

It is astonishing that Carlyle found the time to write so many lengthy letters to his mother, his brothers and sisters, all full of instructions and concern for their welfare. Then his literary correspondence to Mill, Hunt, Sterling, Emerson and others, letters which show the wide range of his interests and near hysterical following of events political and social. Full of those deft thumb-nail sketches of people which strike one so fearfully in *Franklin's Great*, of Wordsworth, "a small genuine man . . . The shake of hand he gives you is fearless, egotistical . . ."

In Chelsea (there was the garden to tend (Carlyle's delight), the London streets to walk in, miles of them, and in the evening to offer to the many who called fascinated by the tall angular fast-talking prophet-in-the-making, charmed by Jane's wit, which provoked Carlyle's laughter. Through the exhilaration of achievement, and these were years of great achievement, the shadows are visible, in Jane's increasing melancholia, and through those excessive protestations of mutual devotion. The letters are almost too vivid, a total exposure of the two who were not for the reader's sake, but for the reader's sake, caught up in this marvellous domestic drama of a shared genius which was to be the tragic triumph of their marriage.

Kay Dick

The odd couple

The Collected Letters of Thomas and Jane Welsh Carlyle

Vol 8, January 1835-June 1836
Vol 9, July 1836-December 1837
Edited by Charles Richard Sanders and Kenneth J. Fielding
(Duke University Press/Transaction, £32.85 the set)

"Let no woman who values peace of soul ever dream of marrying an Author!" so wrote Jane Carlyle, part burlesque, part feelingly, which might indeed describe the tone and experience of these two later volumes of the magnificently edited Duke-Edinburgh Carlyle letters. Three years (1835-37) one could classify as *The French Revolution* years, during which he followed the writing and publication of this extraordinarily vivid anti-history.

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Kay Dick

Resting in peace

The Hour of our Death
By Philippe Ariès

Translated by Helen Weaver
(Allen Lane, £14.95)

In 1955 Geoffrey Gorer published a remarkable essay in *Encounter* entitled "The Pornography of Death". In it he argued that the subject of ordinary death and dying (as opposed to the violent, newsmaking kind) had become socially taboo: something as shameful to talk about as sex had once been for the Victorians.

That was 26 years ago. There have since been considerable changes: in the care of the dying in hospitals and the hospices; in the public debate over euthanasia and life-support machines; in the series of enlightened studies of death and mourning by Gorer himself, the American therapist Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, the theologian Professor S. C. Branden, a number of psychologists, and the classic Penguin *Dying* by John Hinton (1971).

Now it is the turn of the historians. Philippe Ariès is one of a brilliant generation of French writers who have been transforming our notions of what kind of subject history is capable of dealing with (compare Braudel on Mediterranean civilization, Le Roy Ladurie on the medieval village-commune). He has previously written a history of childhood (1962), and the present work — first published in 1977 as *L'Homme devant la mort* — is a 600 page study of the changing ideas of death as held in Europe (and later America) from earliest Christian times right down to our own.

Ariès once described himself as a non-specialist, a demographic historian who researches "the who, what, where, when, how, why of formal doctrines" — whether religious or atheistic — of salvation or annihilation. These he says are the "archetypes of civilization".

Richard Holmes

The world through a visor

The Last Captain

By Hugh Talbot

(Chatto & Windus, £8.95)

In July, 1453, some 30 miles from Bordeaux, was fought the last battle of the Hundred Years War. The English commander, John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, then well into his 70s, died fighting overwhelming French odds. He had one tooth.

The French built a chapel to him, for it was the stuff of medieval legend: the old captain and his last stand, and the hero who refused to leave him. But there was no chivalry at Castillon. The massed French cannon which destroyed the English army also blew away the cobwebs of the Middle Ages. France had been the great English adventure playground. Because it kept the English nobility and their armed gangs happy, it gave the English crown a century's breathing space. But it also corrupted the nobility.

Fortunes were founded on ransom and loot. The result was that the relationship between king and nobility, once based on feudalism, turned increasingly on cash, and by 1450 Henry VI was £400,000 in debt. Even a loyal servant like Talbot could in his will, written on the eve of departure, advise his heirs to sue the King for the money due "considering the great cost and injury to my country that I have had in this service". The old world was falling apart.

England was sliding into chaos and civil war as the

captain went on his last campaign, and even at the time it was recognized that something grander and simpler had passed with his death. This was the last hero of the Middle Ages. The French he was fighting were not such a man, but he was a man, written by a descendant, is an attempt to set him beside Marlborough and Wellington.

Unfortunately very little is known about the man, so most of it is a military history of his time. As such the mistakes are many and wonderful. It was not the chronicler Froissart, who ran a sort of finishing school for kings, but Sir Henry Cristoforo, there was no such man, as Owen Glynn Dwi, nor did he marry Edmund Mortimer's eldest daughter. Edmund Mortimer was not a peer. The castle of Aberystwyth did not fall in September, 1407. The book is thus a delight to those who love catching out authors.

But Mr Talbot is also forced to rely on historical fantasy to pad out his narrative. He writes of the young Henry V and Talbot, "they were both good athletes. Prince Henry, being faster but Talbot having greater staying power." It may well be true, Prince Hal may well have been a sprint ace and Talbot a long-distance man, but there is nothing in history even to suggest it. There were no athletic correspondents among the chroniclers.

Talbot to Bernard Shaw was "the mad bull Talbot". He was a soldier all his life as were all the members of his caste. To them there were just wars and lawsuits. His son once served a writ on Lord Berkeley who

cheerfully reacted by having the process server eat the thing, seals and all.

He was successful as a soldier, especially in his use of flying columns against the Welsh and the Irish guerrillas. But we know little about his tactics, except for his habit, even in old age, of challenging opposing generals to single combat. All the challenges, of course, were refused. Few men noted about his opinions on anything. Presumably he was a man of his time who would have slaughtered the peasantry as though they were game: his background, after all, was the brutality of guerrilla war. For most of his life the world was a few square yards beyond the slit of his visor.

Yet even at this distance there seems to be a man, a man who was about so many of his contemporaries. They recognized this, for in him there was no plotting or dealing with this or that faction. Like that other great medieval hero, William Marshal, he was known across Europe for his loyalty.

And at the finish he made a finer end than any. Few men noted about the Middle Ages; even fewer died heroically in battle, few of the grandees that is. No age has ever entertained so many delusions about itself, so Talbot was too good to be true.

This book is worth reading for the drama of the last campaign. On the way you can truffle happily among the great medieval fantasy, what more can you ask of history?

Byron Rogers

Largest urban wasteland

The City that Disappeared

Glasgow's Demolished Architecture

By Frank Worsdall

(Molendinar Press, £9.95)

In 1964 Lord Esher, then chairman of the Royal Institute of British Architects' planning committee, travelled north to Glasgow to talk about preservation to the institute's annual conference. Having wondered on the way what relevance the subject would be in such a place, he was surprised and thrilled to discover a great city which, he declared, must be preserved.

His initial attitude was, regrettably, that of many Englishmen who have accepted that Edinburgh is something special but have tended to regard Glasgow as somewhere to be pitied and avoided. His conversion moreover, even if it had proved influential, came far

too late. For the best part of a century, Glaswegians have been systematically destroying a noble heritage, creating in the process the largest urban wasteland in Europe.

And yet what a city it must have been the old town spreading around the medieval cathedral and university, a centre of learning and influence which grew over the centuries into a mighty commercial and industrial metropolis, second only to London as the heart of the Empire. Each new wave of buildings, churches, banks, theatres, hospitals, civic halls, palatial villas, elegant terraces, garden suburbs, even the pink and gold stone tenements which, however wretched the living conditions they concealed, were vastly superior to the squalid tenements, a most English industrial cities, testified to its confidence and prosperity.

Subsequent economic decline may have been inevitable, but Mr Worsdall rightly refuses to see that as an excuse for the

pillaging and destruction of the work of its greatest builders, Robert and James Adam, Alexander "Greek" Thomson and Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Just how tragic and accumulated loss has been can be seen from the splendid collection of old photographs he has assembled, accompanied in each case by a brief but informative commentary.

John Young

FOYLES ART GALLERY
BARBARA HANDLEY

An Exhibition of
Engraved Glass

10-6 daily until 1 August
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Fiction

Marital Rites

By Margaret Forster

(Secker & Warburg, £6.95)

Rough Strife

By Lynne Sharon Schwartz

(Gollancz, £6.95)

The Dew

By John Toft

(W. H. Allen, £7.95)

After a jolly but not wholly successful excursion into burlesque Gothick (*The Bride of Louther Fell*) Margaret Forster has returned to what she does best which is chronicling the battlefield of family life.

The Ugosods are the sort of colour supplement family who madden their friends almost more than their enemies. Fashionable inner suburban house, large white Peugeot, cottage in the country, he is a brilliantly successful publisher with Gusset and Crowther (though I'm glad that no published by Gusset and Crowther), she is a gloriously contented wife and mother.

Then, quite unexpectedly and unprecedently, Robert is seduced into an affair by a sharp young editor called Claire. Being, hitherto, the perfect husband, Robert agonizes over the affair and writes an eloquent letter to his wife telling her all about it. She, being the perfect wife, retaliates by pretending the letter has never been sent, much less received, and drawing the various other women in Robert's life into the plot. Robert also confesses to his teen-age daughter and to his plain but adoring secretary.

One way and another the naive and sentimental lover is muddled through by his women-folk all of whom behave with a good deal more toughness and sense than he is allowed to display. The blurb writer describes the outcome as "an unexpected triumph" for all concerned though the conclusion struck me as being a good deal more equivocal than that. "The storm was weathered but there had been a storm."

There are some moments of uncomfortable self-aggrandizement in *The Dew*. Set in the Great War it is a novel of class oppression. Swinish and lascivious aristocrats ride roughshod over working class men and seduce their women. On the Glorious Twelfth the coal-owning Earl of Selborne likes to make love with his

socks on, goes out shooting grouse but comes across more deserving prey. The figure was slithering over the stones and mud of the outhouse wall. "Tunnicliffe, sir," a beater's voice, well-filled croaked. "Tunnicliffe?" "The deceiver, sir."

"Deserter?" "E cut loose, sir, from the North Staffords. 'E lives rough, 'e does."

The Earl fires and misses, for in this book the upper classes are not so inept but also incompetent, though not so incompetent that they can't inflict pain, degradation and death on the lower orders most of the time. Mr Toft's vision is remarkably accurate and wise. Sometimes he writes with power and even passion but ultimately there are too many stereotypes and not enough grey areas. The good and the bad too bad to be true.

The joy of Michael Anthony's *All that Glitters* (André Deutsch, £5.95) is the dialogue. Anthony is a criminologist and although his narrative could be mistaken for standard Hamstead his conversations are rendered in what sounds like absolutely authentic West Indian. "Ma," says little Horace, the precocious thirteen-year-old narrator, "What Auntie talking about?" To which his mother replies, "The chief gold."

He thief the gold that Horace's Aunt Roomenee brings back in a trunk from Panama provides the plot. This is the pretext for a wistfully evocative tale in which the best thing is the description of Horace's relationship with Teacher Myra who recognizes his talent. He is better than Charles Kingsley, she says, because "Sometimes his essays are all right, but he can't bring things to life". She can teach Horace grammar, but bringing things to life is something God-given. "Sound and sight," she says, "You make these real." Anthony himself is sound on sight but enchanting at sound.

As both critic and novelist David Lodge has built an enviable reputation for extreme sometimes self-conscious, cleverness redeemed by a stylish sense of humour, and the ridiculous. Both are evident in this reprinted novel *The British Museum is Falling Down* (Secker & Warburg, £6.95).

It is a natural, pre-*Humanitas Vitae* companion to his more recent and much admired *How Far Can You Go?*

Tim Heald

Why Smith failed

Triumph or Tragedy?

Rhodesia to Zimbabwe

By Miles Hudson

(Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

Miles Hudson concedes that his account of modern Rhodesia history lacks balance "to the extent that it will fall on incidents and personalities" which the writer has personal knowledge. But at the same time his qualifications give him a unique perspective on a country whose recent past cannot be the most extensively documented in Africa. Appointed head of Rhodesia Affairs at the Conservative Research Department four days after U.D.I. in 1965, he was sent out to monitor the internal elections which produced Rhodesia's first black prime minister, Bishop Muzorewa. For Lord Carrington the decision not to recognize the Muzorewa Government meant climbing down on the party's manifesto — a decision which the author now, but not then, believes to have been correct.

There are those who believe that by the time Lord Carrington convened the Lancaster House conference the Rhodesian plum was ripe for the picking. The white leaders who mattered were aware as never before that they couldn't hold out any longer and in the Patriotic Front of Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo there was a unified and potent black opposition. However, it still required some skill and ruthless diplomacy by Lord Carrington to reach the agreement that was to lead to that previously elusive internationally acceptable independence for Zimbabwe.

I appreciated the insights that Miles Hudson's book offered, but on one point I would take issue with him. He argues that the scale of Mugabe's victory was due to the "African tendency to jump on the bandwagon". And yet he himself maintains that one of the recurring factors in the Rhodesian situation has been over-optimistic white intelligence about the real feelings of the Africans. I believe that in his case the African population voted en masse for the man they wanted, and I speak as a journalist who like many of my white colleagues got it wrong at the time.

Julian Marshall

According to the author, politicians involved with Rhodesia failed because they were unable to appreciate fully at least one of three points. First, whites in Rhodesia could not rule indefinitely outnumbered 25 to one; second, the whites would not give up power without a struggle; and third, "black unity was essential if the transition was to be achieved with the minimum of bloodshed". White politicians inside Rhodesia, such as Whitehead, were eased out by their colleagues or their associates when they seemed to be making concessions to the blacks; a process culminating in the election of the Rhodesia Front and Ian Smith's defiant U.D.I. "The event was inevitable", the

author argues, because the Rhodesians were aware of the three points. First, whites in Rhodesia could not rule indefinitely outnumbered 25 to one; second, the whites would not give up power without a struggle; and third, "black unity was essential if the transition was to be achieved with the minimum of bloodshed". White politicians inside Rhodesia, such as Whitehead, were eased out by their colleagues or their associates when they seemed to be making concessions to the blacks; a process culminating in the election of the Rhodesia Front and Ian Smith's defiant U.D.I. "The event was inevitable", the

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THE ARTS

Interview

Greatest classics

In September those of us with no Greek will be able to catch a reflection of the distant glories of the Greek Anthology from Simonides to romantic Paulos; those with no ancient Sanskrit will be able to search for that mystical first principle in the Vedas. The Penguin Classics will be introduced to the blood and battles of the early Irish myths and sagas. In the same month Penguin Classics are publishing a new translation of the *Rubaiyat*, three Sanskrit plays, and revised editions of Aristotle's *Politics* and Theophrastus' *Characters*. The Penguin Classics series that puts the masterpieces of world literature in lively and scholarly translation into paperback has now published 250 titles; and the golden spring shows no sign of drying up. If it did not exist, somebody would have to invent this indispensable, civilized living. And yet it came about by accident.

In 1945 E. V. Rieu, who had had until then a rather dim career as publisher, re-read the *Odyssey* because he was afraid of losing his Greek. His wife thought his translation into everyday English rather poor. So he showed it to Allen Lane, who was then at the original intended to sell the series for those with no knowledge of the original. He defined his principle for translators: that of equal effect; that is, that translation is the best which comes nearest to creating in its audience the same impression as was made by the original on its contemporaries. The *Odyssey* and its successors were a new genre of classics, free from archaism, pedantry, and translationese.

The severer sort of academics disapproved that the translations would be used by their captive classes as crutches like Kelly's Keys. We have come a long way since then; and the study of the classics as literature rather than language has become respectable as well as enjoyable. By another accident Betty Radice was living just across the hill from E. V. Rieu in Highgate. She was teaching Channing School. As Betty Dawson from Hull and the only one of her year at St. Hilda's reading classics, she had been turned out to Balliol for tutoring, and then to Rieu in 1945. She is a born translator and commentator, particularly of Latin, and would have become a don. But she married De Lisle Radice immediately after they came to Rieu from Oxford, and three sons and a daughter were her career until well after the war.

Back in teaching, and looking for new books to teach from,

Peter Schaufuss stars next week at the Festival Hall in his much-acclaimed production of *La Sylphide* for Festival Ballet; but if he had listened to his doctors he would no longer be dancing and might be remembered only as an exceptionally promising young man who never achieved his potential.

He had gone to the United States in 1974 to join New York City Ballet, and before long he was having problems. Referred from one doctor or surgeon to another, he received the same answer from all: an operation was essential and he would not be able to dance after it.

In despair, he took one last dance and flew to consult an osteopath in London who specializes in dancers' problems. The specialist later admitted he had accepted Schaufuss as a patient only because he knew there was no alternative to his own assessment was at best an even chance of succeeding. The cure took several months, during which Schaufuss hid at home between treatments, so as not to meet his father. "I read more than I ever did before," he says.

If he ran into anyone he knew he pretended to be on route between New York and his birthplace, Copenhagen. Only when it was all over could he bear to admit how ill he had been, and how he was not just as good as ever, but better. Now the osteopath is practically a second father to him.

Schaufuss's real father was a leading dancer with the Royal Danish Ballet and, for a time, director. His mother, Mona Vangsaas, was one of the finest Danish ballerinas, marvellous in the Bournonville ballets, and the original ballet in Ashton's production of the Prokofiev ballet, in which her husband played Mercutio and Peter, then aged seven, the page.

With both parents in the ballet, it was inevitable that he should follow; where else, he asks, would he have spent the evenings if not in the theatre? He had great physical aptitude: saw Jette Andersen's solo for his graduation examination at 17, and impressive it was too.

Start was spectacular

But in early years, aptitude was not matched by great enthusiasm. He remembers being more interested in boxing and other sports, like his contemporary Johnny Eliassen, whose career in Copenhagen is a model of what Schaufuss's might have been. He progressed steadily to a respected position at the Royal Theatre and the occasional guest engagement abroad.

Largely because of a home background that had become decidedly unattractive, he got away to a quite spectacular start that quickly fizzled out. To



In rehearsal: Peter Schaufuss with, above, Niels Bjorn Larsen and Mariya Vella Galt; right, with Larsen, working on *La Sylphide*.

start your career as guest star in the Canadian National Ballet's *Nutcracker* is rather splendid, but he soon found that the market for teenage guest stars with no experience and no repertoire is restricted, and it took time before the Royal Danish Ballet was willing to accept him back.

Then, at 21, he was off again, this time to London Festival Ballet to replace John Gilpin, who had retired prematurely because of illness. Schaufuss made his debut in *The Sleeping Beauty*, which he had never seen before. He admits now how alarming it was to attempt a style new to him, dancing his first Petipa classic in front of a London audience. He spent the first four years of the Seventies mostly with Festival, but danced with other companies, too, not always of the first rank.

He never lacked work, or roles, but artistically he was getting nowhere fast. Then came an invitation to join New York City Ballet, not quite out of the blue, because he had taken a class with the company when passing through Manhattan, and knowing of Balanchine's liking for male dancers with a Danish training, had not stunted to make himself noticed.

Despite his admiration for Balanchine, Schaufuss was never really at home with NYCB. The first crucial experience during his time there was the injury which forced him to think hard about his career. Then there was an invitation to partner Makarova at short notice in *Giselle* with American Ballet Theatre when her intended partner was unavailable. After that, he realized that the roles he really wanted to dance were those requiring an emotional commitment, where the dancer has to present a

character or a personal interpretation. Such roles, by enabling him to work full-out, have also increased his strength as a virtuoso.

His permanent affiliation since 1977 has been with the National Ballet of Canada, which offers an attractively eclectic repertoire and allows him to accept many guest engagements, mainly with Festival Ballet and the Royal Danish Ballet. The wheel of fortune has brought him back to the three companies where he began his dancing days.

Lately, too, dancing with the Ballet de Marseille and also having *The Phantom of the Opera* created for him in Paris, Schaufuss has come heavily under Roland Petit's guidance and readily admits how much he has learned about projecting a role. He has become interested enough in dance for drama's sake that the role he specially

covets is Petit's own as the aging roue rather than the dashing young hero he actually plays in Petit's *Coppelia*.

The other important turn in his career has been to find in the ballet a serious interest in teaching and in producing ballets. His staging of *La Sylphide* has won praise for preserving the traditional values of Bournonville's choreography, but it actually does so with many revolutionary changes, which Schaufuss defends with quiet logic.

"Bournonville had to work with a small company and used actors to supplement the dancers," he says. "All his ballets were created on a small stage, not as big as the present Royal Theatre in Copenhagen. If you are going to dance them in the large theatres and auditoriums we use today, they have to be expanded. And public taste today would not accept as much

mime as he used. People expect to see more dancing, and to see the drama expressed through dancing."

He is preparing to follow up the success of *La Sylphide* (which he has already remounted in Marseille and will soon present in Berlin) with productions of two other Bournonville ballets. The National Ballet of Canada will give *Napoli* to open its thirtieth anniversary season at Toronto in November. The main changes Schaufuss will make to that are in the middle scene, set in the Blue Grotto.

He says: "Each time I go back to Copenhagen, someone asks me: 'What are you going to do with the second act?' and they usually add: 'Whatever it is, it can hardly be less good than we have.' I think Bournonville himself cannot have been happy with it, because he continued to make changes. I shall present it as a sort of dream on Gennaro's part."

Something for a hero to do

"I plan to give Gennaro and Teresina more to do in the ballabile in Act II, and to introduce the *Florent* festival at Gennaro's pas de deux for them in Act III, which will leave more solos for other people to dance; that is, useful with a large company. Another change I shall make is to give Giovanni more to do. At present she has just one little scene in the first act, and it's embarrassing to tell a dancer that he's playing a character but you don't actually have anything to do."

"Also, I shall have the two comic rivals coming back for the final celebrations instead of disappearing when they have been routed. That seems to me far more true to the Italian temperament, quarrelling one moment but drinking happily together soon afterwards. I spoke to Niels Bjorn Larsen about that, and he told me it used to happen like that in Copenhagen in the Thirties."

The other Bournonville production Schaufuss is discussing is *A Folk Tale*. "Actually it's the one I always wanted to mount. It has a good story, good music, and more dancing than *Napoli*. The thing that has to be done is to give the hero something to dance. Traditionally he does not have a single step to do, which you simply cannot accept today."

As if that were not enough to occupy a man who is also at the height of his career as a performer, Schaufuss has been developing ideas for a possible television series on different styles of classical ballet. After his peregrinations, there can be few dancers with a wider practical experience of them than Schaufuss.

Television

Nice one, Shirl

Live from Two

BBC 2

The excitement of live television. Yesterday afternoon's Live from Two was to have had Shirley Williams, the media's favourite and heroine. But, as Shirley Robbe stumbled over the teleprompter, it became clear that this might not be Shirley's plane from London — said for a moment, from a Granada Television studio fund, not from the Social Democrat coffers — was late. TV Times might be overtaken by events.

And we were all set for 45 minutes of Jackie Collins' plugging her new novel, which, it turned out, towards the end of the programme, when it was safe to offend without leaving an empty chair, was a story about women who were either virgins or temptresses.

With the chance that the Croydon Crowd-puller, or the Bernadette Belle, or whichever seat she finds, might not arrive in time, we had to hear all about Jackie Collins' father, who kept a copy of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* in a brown paper bag by his bed, and the miserable days of unemployment for Jackie.

We need not have worried. Of course she would be there. If we know nothing else about Shirley, it is that she is reliable, dependable, there on hand when we need her. And there she was, beaming, like a lost child found, wondering what all the fuss was about.

As soon as she had denied that she was nice, "I'm not particularly nice, but I try to be polite, which gives you the name of nice, which I do not like one little bit" — she was on nicest form, ribbing the press, like a rank-and-file minister, for not taking men politicians to task for not coming through the hair. "I think every other man gets away with being bald or not bald, having a toupee (which he pronounced 'poo' or 'not toupee')."

Otherwise she was sweet reason, admitting that she hadn't had a nose job, that she was not a feminist, "What about Bernadette?" Shirley was expecting another question. "Croydon will be fought by the Liberals and we will support them," she said, and Bernadette "will be there."

Nicholas Wapshott

Theatre

Triumph of violence

Restoration

Royal Court

Proceeding in his mission of ripping the veil from our culture's classical sanctuaries, Edward Bond follows his exposures of Greek and Shakespearean tragedy with an unflinching Restoration comedy. The piece is subtitled "a pastoral", but anybody who swallows that is really being led up the garden path.

Lord Are, having grabbed the title at his father's death and run through his inheritance, is now lowering himself to a union with an iron master's daughter; and when we first see the preening young lord, he is arranging himself becomingly against a tree (rarely having seen one before) so as to achieve love at first sight and avoid the tedium of courtship. So far we are in a world of Restoration parody, for which Bond proves himself stylistically well equipped. More important than the bride, though, is the figure of young Bob, arriving from his loving, light-hearted estate, and leading us into the below-stairs society which is the play's main concern.

As I understand it *Restoration* has a clear objective: combining the history and philosophy, the sunny breakfast rooms of the aristocracy of Lord Are and his gorgeous old mother (affording too brief a glimpse of an aristocratic life as comedy; even murder and villainous betrayal. Down below, it is as dark and joyless as elsewhere in the prison house of Bond's England.

Much the most vital passages in *Restoration* are those when violence takes over, either above or below stairs.

One Night Stand

Apollo

Up in Oldham, where *One Night Stand* began, the audience were not content with packing the theatre to see Mike Harding's play about a rock band; they made local stars of the boys in the band and invited them to concert appearances. The original show has now made its way intact to Shaftesbury Avenue, with the original company and director and it is not hard to see the appeal.

Despite being about the grind of putting a band together in a Catholic school for boys and joining the queue for stardom in the Beatles generation, it is no more threatening than a teddy bear. Teenage lust amounts to ritual fumbling in cinema seats and the overall mood is of sublime innocence.

There is a tinge of cynicism to Mr Harding's view of the rock business, which allows the band to rise to the top with a dreadful song called "Can Ye

Frank, a footman, is caught stealing a spoon, and Bob leaps at him and bolts him into a box, fully understanding that this is a hanging matter. The idea that this takes place between two scenes involving an element of social complexity much beyond the black and white class divisions.

Up in the breakfast room, Lord Are's disappointed young wife appears to him in the likeness of an avenging ghost, at which point he playfully drives with his sword at the spectre who drops dead with a little squeak; somewhat put out by this, the killer hands the weapon over to the guileless Bob and gets him to repeat the crime; all in a spirit of fun, for which Bob will finally pay with a hanging.

Thanks also to Simon Callow's ruthlessly ridiculous, ever-beaming Are, the social point is deftly made by bringing high comedy to tremble on the brink of farce.

There remain, alas, great snowflakes of working-class protest drama, led by Bob's African wife (Debby Bishop), and featuring Elizabeth Bradley as a stoical housekeeper and John Barrett as a blind swineherd.

These scenes are written in Bond's folk-drama style: presenting direct events in a matter-of-fact manner, and breaking off for sage parables. Their main outlet is in the Brechtian scenes, whose irregular lines are ingeniously, if unmemorably, contained in Nick Bissell's Eisler-like settings. Philip Davis makes something memorable from Bob, and Hayden Griffin's set is an expressive variation on the German model. But it is an evening of bold urgent gestures in which nothing much gets said.

Irving Wardle

Twist John Peel" and shows them 20 years on singing the songs that began their career. It is buried under a mountain of high spirits, however.

They relate to the music and each other with the ease of friends who play together for fun; if the appeal of the show reaches through to southern folk it will be because of the company and what they have made of Mr Harding's benign, occasionally blunt, humour.

Jeffrey Longmore has the advantage of appearing as a natural lead singer of a minor company, and director and it is not hard to see the appeal. Kenneth Alan Taylor's production retains the feel of the original. With several more good performances, including Roger Phillips, Linda Jean Barry and Christina Jones, the show has much to offer. But it is a fairy tale, not rock 'n' roll.

Ned Chaillet

Concerts in London

Late bloom of an early promise

BBCNSO/Downes

Albert Hall

A promise made by the BBC 45 years ago was redeemed on Tuesday night when the composer George Lloyd achieved a belated Promenade concert debut at the age of 68. Edward Clark apparently intended it when he was in charge of BBC music during the 1930s, but it never came about. Then war-time service very nearly ended the composer's life before he resumed his musical activity, including the Symphony No. 6 that opened this programme.

Edward Downes conducted it with the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra in the first of their two Prom appearances this year (the second is tonight). A short, three-movement work, the symphony dates from 1935-36, and proved agreeably diverting in its intentionally light-hearted, tuneful idiom, a late bloom very much in the English pastoral tradition.

The doubt it raises is not that it is such easy listening, but whether the composer's evident facility for melodic and harmonic simplicity is not over exposed in a symphonic structure.

There was a curiosity in the love-dust Tchaikovsky conceived from themes very familiar in the *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy-Overture, as part of a projected opera that never went very far. It was sung with pleasant sentiment but little vocal colour by Eileen Homan and Keith Lewis, in an English translation by Mr Downes which can hardly be counted a Shakespearean treasure.

This afforded the promoters a diversion in the interval as they set up an antiphonal chant, "It is the nightingale. No, it is the lark," adding some further ornithological species of their own devising.

More serious matters were forthcoming in a thoughtfully excellent, covered a range of styles and media, and showed Telemann as educationalist as well as composer.

The education was geographical rather than musical: an excerpt from his *Singende Geographie*, with a recital of place-names in England, from Essex to Chester, and Bohemia, of which I fear I can give no details in spite of the clarity of Emma Kirkby's diction. I hope the Academy may turn to his more interesting *Klingende Geographie*, where the music imitates national styles.

But almost any Telemann concert does that in some degree, for he habitually slipped

in and out of national costumes. Of the 12 so-called Paris Quartets we heard three: two in an international Italianate manner, following a concerto pattern, the other a sonata, and one in the manner of a French suite.

This last, one of those actually written in Paris, was the most attractive for its sparkling originality of invention, unmistakable Telemann for all the French tone of voice and its ornamentation and richness.

The Academy, with Stephen Preston as Flautist and Monica Huggett as violinist, played them lightly, deftly and with nice touches of wit.

More serious matters were forthcoming in a thoughtfully

prepared and well-pointed account of the Symphony No. 10 by Shostakovich, arguably the peak of his symphonic achievement. Mr Downes had a commanding view of the long dramatic phases of the opening movement leading to the climactic cries of orchestral anguish, and the orchestra showed, as it were, a clean pair of heels in the last of these before bringing to the savage second movement.

Thereafter the performance tended to run out of steam, despite some fine individual passages (from solo bassoon and cor anglais in particular).

Stanley Sadie

These quartets typify Telemann's relaxing of instrumental colour and its combinations; the medium and we can see from their composition brought out the best in him. The flute-violin duets we heard, the ingenious solo violin fantasy and the bass viol sonata played by Monica Huggett, are more routine, so too are the songs Miss Kirkby so tastefully sang.

All gave pleasure; but the existence of giants like Bach and Handel makes it a little surprising that Telemann can rarely expect more reward from posterity than a patronisingly approving smile.

Stanley Sadie

Our aim is quite simply a theatre managed and financed by women, but that doesn't mean a theatre forever doing *Hedda Gabler* and *Lysistrata*. So the project is to run a theatre for a hundred women ranging from Peggy Ashcroft through Lady Falkender to Elizabeth Taylor asking for their support in some form or other, and the only even faintly hostile reply we've had was a card from Jilly Cooper saying that the whole thing sounded a bit sexist.

"We don't want a sisterhood ghetto," says Christine Eccles. "We want a general-interest theatre which just happens to have women in control of it. Because there are still too many plays, are still being staged from an exclusively male point of view."

The Secretary of the Women's Theatre Project, 414 Tottenham, 132a Englefield Road, London, N1.

Sheridan Morley

Her husband here is Alan Titus, every inch the sybarite in his appearance and in the sweetness of his baritone, which contrasts nicely with that of Knut Skram as Figaro, who is pleasantly uncomplicated and strong of voice. The character parts are effectively done as before, but all their drolleries are gloriously and simply trumped by Miss Lott's final monologue and that is as it should be.

Paul Griffiths

Figaro

Glyndebourne

The opera happily chosen to open the present Glyndebourne season, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, which returned on Tuesday for a second run of performances was Sir Peter Hall's production rehearsed by Roger Williams. Nothing has been lost from this work as a serious human comedy, rich in its characterization and moving in its relationships.

Many of the principals are also new, including Colette Alliot-Lugaz as a very touching Cherubino, strikingly boyish in her demeanour and bright, clear tone, but singing with a depth of feeling only available to a woman playing a boy. She is appearing for the first time in this country, as also is Maria Fava Gallinari as Susanna.

Miss Gallinari surprised at first by the plainness of her approach, but it soon emerged that she was avoiding, and wisely as it turned out, the part

Play it again, girls

On the corner of the Embankment

and Northumberland Avenue, directly below Hungerford Bridge, there lies a 670-seat theatre called the Playhouse. Built originally by a property speculator who had hopes of selling out to the railway during a planned extension of the line, it was a station which never actually happened. It has the unique theatrical distinction of having been managed for long periods of its existence by women.

Some years later the BBC gave up their lease, it now begins to look as if the Playhouse may be about to come back to life as a theatre and moreover, true to its history, as a theatre run by and primarily for women.

Sue Dunderdale (currently an assistant director with the RSC working on their Aldwych production of *The Merchant of Venice* and *Twelfth Night*) and Christine Eccles (who for the last eight years has been a director of community theatre projects in Battersea and elsewhere) are two of the seven founding directors of the Women's Playhouse Project. If all goes according to plan, they will by the end of September have raised an initial £25,000 with which to put a down payment on the building, finance an architect and organize a more wide-ranging appeal. For a further £75,000 they then plan to get the theatre open again and running on distinctly feminist lines, as Sue Dunderdale explains.

"Our aim is quite simply a theatre managed and financed by women, but that doesn't mean a theatre forever doing *Hedda Gabler* and *Lysistrata*. So the project is to run a theatre for a hundred women ranging from Peggy Ashcroft through Lady Falkender to Elizabeth Taylor asking for their support in some form or other, and the only even faintly hostile reply we've had was a card from Jilly Cooper saying that the whole thing sounded a bit sexist."

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DOWN FROM FUDGE MOUNTAIN

Everybody smiled for the cameras at Ottawa and the smiles were not as faked as in previous summits. But the general feeling of success lay in what was left out of the communiqué, not what was put in. The Japanese Prime Minister smiled because there is no criticism of their selfish trade policies; once again they have managed to postpone for a year any action against them. The Americans are pleased that there is no demand for them to cut interest rates. The Germans are pleased they can go on trading with the Russians. Mrs Thatcher is pleased to proclaim her affinity with President Reagan. But the sweetness was managed only by avoiding or blurring a commitment to do anything positive about the world's economic disorders. The leaders have descended from Fudge Mountain.

The political side of the summit offers more hope than the economic. There does seem to be a convergence on the double track approach which combines strengthening of Western armed forces with negotiations with the Soviets. Mitterrand is a marvellous stiffener for weakening European spines. There was quite a good compromise on the North-East issue which is not unrelated: many Europeans have been worried that if Mr Reagan returns to the old American policy of dividing the developing world into friends and enemies he will drive non-aligned countries into the arms of the Russians, precisely the opposite of what he hopes to achieve. The American promise to look at global negotiations is only a small step, but a useful one.

The communiqué makes statements about employment, inflation, currency, and interest rate disorder. But they are no more than interesting tea-leaves. The declaration that unemployment and inflation must be tackled at the same

time is quite different from Mrs Thatcher's line which is that inflation must be beaten first and that unemployment should be tackled later. Where there is agreement with Mrs Thatcher's policy is the case for low and stable monetary growth. But the communiqué also says that there is a need for an appropriate mix of policy: monetarism alone is not enough. That is surely right. Fixation on economics, assigning a single objective and devil take the hindmost, has brought us very modest returns for the losses suffered so far.

But there is a very low limit to what any national economic policy can achieve and this is where Fudge Mountain is a disaster area. The communiqué says that each country is aware of the problems that volatile exchange and interest rates can cause. So? No country, even if its awareness has passed the pain threshold, can do anything effective by itself. Neither in the communiqué nor in the press conferences did the leaders do more than wring their hands. Every country is left to continue pursuing its own national interest, as it sees it, which, Adam Smith notwithstanding, will end up internationally in the interests of nobody. Instead of working towards a strategy of international monetary cooperation, as we urged last week, we are in for a period of crisis management which merely guarantees that there will be more crises.

Herr Schmidt complains that interest rates have never been higher since the birth of Christ and he is right that the extremely high rates in the United States will damage his economy and ours. If we compete on interest rates we will restrict private industry. If we do not, we will either have to let the exchange rate fall or draw on reserves and there are not enough of them. It is absurd to rail against the

Americans. They see interest rates as a weapon against their inflation and it is unrealistic to expect them to relinquish it. The only sensible course is to insulate interest rates from exchange rates by currency stabilization agreements; Lord Lever in *This Times* last week sketched out one approach which envisages the creation of an international bank to cushion currencies against the volatility of the enormous internationally mobile funds.

This is where summits are presently organized are so disappointing. There is no mechanism for the conversion of rhetoric. There is none because the leaders' minds are never sharply focused on a single fundamental issue. The summit travel from capital to capital to prepare the communiqué but then they and their leaders leave it to the national bureaucracies where everything withers.

Mrs Thatcher seems to have developed good relations both with the European leaders and with President Reagan. There are two clear opportunities here. First, she should persuade President Reagan to take a lead on the creation of a secretariat to prepare a working paper on currency stabilization for the next summit in France and to be in a position to follow through afterwards. Secondly, as a contribution to an international agreement on exchange rates, and for its own sake in the short term, she should instruct the Bank of England and the Treasury to prepare at once for our entry into the European currency system. It could be the first building block.

If we, and the other countries, continue to believe that there is a unilateral solution to the multilateral problems we are doomed to seeing the dolo queues grow, the corrosion of political cooperation, and a very serious threat to the stability of our societies. That is a measure of the failure of the Ottawa summit.

ROYAL YACHT HITS ROCK

The explanation given by the Foreign Office for the cancellation of King Juan Carlos' visit to London to attend the royal wedding does not stand up to scrutiny. To say, as the Foreign Office does, that Gibraltar is merely a convenient place to begin a honeymoon cruise in the Mediterranean simply will not do. Nor will the suggestion that the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales on the Rock will be a "private matter". Spanish sensitivities over the question of Gibraltar could hardly be plainer, and were restated by the Spanish Foreign Minister, Señor Pedro Perez-Illorca, when he met Lord Carrington in Brussels last week.

Britain and Spain have been moving toward some common ground over Gibraltar since the Lisbon Agreement in April last year. That agreement provided for the lifting by Spain of restrictions on the movement of people and goods across the Spanish frontier with Gibraltar. It thus paved the way for possible eventual negotiations on the territorial status of Gibraltar, despite the fact that the two sides remain as far apart as ever. Negotiations of this kind are very much a matter of atmosphere, and the creation of a relatively optimistic atmosphere had enabled Juan Carlos to undertake the visit to this country for which both sides have been

working for some time. To risk setting back this slow and difficult progress towards an accommodation between Spain and Britain is a bad blunder.

The Royal family is constitutionally bound to take government advice when travelling abroad. Hence there are several possible explanations. One is that the Government failed to anticipate the Spanish reaction, and felt too committed by the time Madrid made its feelings clear. This would be inexcusable incompetence. Another possibility is that the Government did know what would happen but did not care, which would be worse. A third — worst of all — is that the Government knew there would be trouble but deliberately advised the Palace to go ahead in order to demonstrate how irrational the Spanish attitude towards Gibraltar is. This seems unlikely but is widely believed in Spain. The only explanation which would let Britain off the hook is that the Spanish Government misjudged its own public opinion by indicating informally that it would turn a blind eye.

Whatever the explanation, Anglo-Spanish relations have been impaired at a time when Spain's links with western Europe are of critical importance. It is, after all, only six months since Spain narrowly survived an attempt at a military coup. The fact that Spanish democracy remains

in tact is very largely due to the standing ability and determination of King Juan Carlos himself. More than anyone, the Spanish Monarch has steered Spain through the post-Franco years. Spain's potential entry into the European Common Market and its prospective membership of NATO are part of Juan Carlos' policy of seeking to ensure that the seeds of democracy flourish in healthy soil, within the framework of the European community and the Western alliance. The presence of the Spanish King in London would have been a small but significant step in that direction.

The ill-advised decision to use Gibraltar as a stepping off point for the royal honeymoon has left Juan Carlos with little choice but to bow to pressure from Spanish public opinion, especially on the right wing. The incident need not damage either Anglo-Spanish relations or Spain's ambitions in Europe in the long term. But it has clumsily and unnecessarily set back modest hopes for limited movement on an apparently intractable and complex issue. There are after all a number of points in the Mediterranean at which the royal yacht could have called. To make an issue out of Gibraltar casts a shadow over what should have been a joyous occasion untouched by political considerations.

A HELP TO STEADY THE NERVES

There has been a remarkable improvement in relations between the British and Irish Governments over the past few days. The week began with rumours that the new Government in Dublin was considering recalling its Ambassador from London in protest at the British handling of the hunger strike in the Maze prison. Whether this was a true reflection of ministerial feeling in Dublin or simply an indication of the political pressures upon the Taoiseach and his colleagues, this was a disturbing sign of the rift that might be created between the two governments if the hunger strike were to continue indefinitely.

Since then the position has changed radically. Dr Jarrett Fitzgerald, the Irish Prime Minister, speaking in the Dail on Tuesday night, made it clear that he was no longer at odds with the British Government. He deeply regretted that the strikers had rejected the offer from British officials to clarify what conditions would apply in the prison if the strike was called off; he believed that the strikers were attaching unrealistic conditions to their demands; and he acknowledged that the

action his Government required of Britain had in fact been carried out. This was a reference to the visit paid by an official early yesterday morning to the Maze so as to make the offer clear to the prisoners.

This new turn of events is reassuring for two reasons. Good relations between London and Dublin are to be valued for their own sake. The hunger strike has been a serious impediment, and may still be damaging in the future because of the need for Irish ministers to make concessions to sections of their own public opinion from time to time. But Dr Fitzgerald has acted with courage and discretion to minimise any damage.

The second ground for reassurance is that Dr Fitzgerald's remarks might help to steady the nerves of those in Britain who might otherwise have been tempted to appease the hunger strikers. There can be no doubt that the strike has proved a very considerable propaganda benefit to the IRA. Few events are likely to have a more dramatic effect on international opinion than young men deliberately sacrificing their lives for their

cause. Any reasonable steps that could be taken to bring the strike to an end would be abundantly justified. But the British Government would be most unwise to get itself into the position of being pushed from one concession to another in the hope of meeting their demands.

The British authorities have rightly decided not to grant the basic demand of the strikers for political status, and the impression has been created that the strikers have hardened their position whenever any compromise short of that demand has been in prospect. For the British Government to negotiate directly with the strikers, as they are now asking, would therefore give the IRA another propaganda victory without any grounds for believing that the strike could then be ended except by conceding the basic point. The strike can serve the IRA's interest in two ways. So long as it lasts it gives them great propaganda; and if it is bought off on their terms, it will increase their standing at home and abroad. It would be futile for the British Government to stumble out of one trap straight into the other.

How a community polices itself

From the Chief Constable of Warwickshire
Sir, I read with interest your informative article published on July 15, 1981, by Mr. Peter Evans, which includes the observation that communities in this country have been relied upon since Saxon times to help police themselves, and it is this tradition which has broken down.

I am happy to report that this comment does not apply to the county of Warwickshire (nor indeed to many other police areas) where my team of professional police officers enjoy the support of a slender but enthusiastic group of carefully chosen volunteers who give a few hours of their week to the cause of supporting law and order. I refer, of course, to the Special Constabulary. "Specials" can never be a substitute for the regular officer, whose professional training is both lengthy and sophisticated, but they do provide an emergency reserve capable of giving very real background support in times of crisis.

By way of bonus to the community there is the fact that as part of their training Specials patrol with regular officers, which gives strength to our all too thin blue line engaged in community policing. Additionally, as men and women chosen from a wide spectrum of occupations and backgrounds, they provide a link for better understanding between the regular police and the community they serve.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER BIRCH,
Chief Constable,
Chief Constable's Office,
PO Box No 4,
Leak Woodton,
Warwick.
July 20.

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)
Sir, The sympathies of all good citizens must go out to the police at the present time. They have been doing a magnificent job during the recent riots, which were on a scale and of a character previously unknown in England. They have had to cope without proper equipment, which the Home Secretary has promised to put right.

Much consideration is being given to any further steps which can be taken to improve police morale and efficiency. I have one suggestion to make: the police introduce an officer class into their ranks such as there was under Lord Trenchard, with a college to recruit and train officers specifically.

Although the benefits of this step will take some time to give results I believe it would have a tremendous effect on the whole police force. Quite apart from civil disturbances, the growth of violent crime, burglary, drug peddling, etc., is now on such a scale that the police must be led by highly trained officers of high educational background to enable them to bear full comparison with officers in HM Forces.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES,
House of Commons.
July 20.

From Mr Terence Lewis
Sir, The police force are taking a fair amount of criticism at present, mainly directed at their community relations. Working in a very busy "front-line" hospital we see the force from a different viewpoint. They provide protection for our portering, nursing and medical staff, often under very difficult circumstances, but there is one specific way in which their immediate cooperation saves lives: they give blood.

Very occasionally, after a particularly difficult heart operation, patients will not stop bleeding. Freshly taken blood transfused into these patients usually has a dramatic effect. This has been the case on two occasions in the last six months. By chance the first was the day after the riots, the second during the rather more generalized London disturbances, both in the middle of the night. Prompt donation of fresh blood by a large number of police officers, already under considerable stress, has undoubtedly saved lives.

The staff of this unit are very grateful for this entirely voluntary aspect of their community relations, as are the patients.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE LEWIS,
Department of Cardio-Vascular and Thoracic Surgery,
St Mary's Hospital,
Whitechapel, E1.
July 17.

From Sir Edward Playfair
Sir, Reading Tom Bower's interesting article (July 13-17) and comparing Germany as it is today with what it was at the end of the war, I am struck by how right we were to prefer reconstruction to preventing the recurrence of such a tragedy. He must look down from heaven with some satisfaction at the results of his work.

Yours faithfully,
E. W. PLAYFAIR,
12 The Vale,
Chelsea, SW3.
July 18.

New attitudes to manning levels

From Mr G. H. B. Cattell
Sir, Last week (July 14) you reported the CBI's proposals concerning manpower reductions in the public service. You also reported Sir Leo Pliatzky's view (July 15), which went to the effect that the CBI's aspirations were unrealistic and unachievable.

It is important to our future as a free and politically stable country that people should be persuaded that the CBI's proposals are practicable. We need desperately to find new money for investment in modern public services and for the refurbishment of our dilapidated and depressed urban areas. We cannot do that if we preserve the gross overmanning which exists in the public sector. Over the last 20 years technology has advanced at a rate which causes older people to catch their breath in astonishment. The effect of this advance has been to make it possible to reduce, significantly, the number of people required for manual and office work over the same 20 year period the number of people employed in local authorities has risen by 80 per cent and in central government and public corporations, excluding nationalized industries, by over 45 per cent.

Almost all companies which are still trading in the private sector have been forced to reduce their payrolls by amounts which would have been considered inconceivable two years ago. My own company has reduced its labour force by 25 per cent in 18 months. Yet we are still trading at the same level of turnover, and although still feeling the effects of the recession, we are much more efficient and poised to take advantage of the upturn when it comes. Never again will we return to the manning levels or unacceptably high costs which fear of organized labour and our own complacency dictated in times now passed.

I know from my own experience as Director of Manpower and Productivity Services at the Government of Employment that the CBI is not preaching nonsense. A 10 per cent manpower reduction in our public services is easily obtainable, given the necessary management ability and will.

A further, but temporary, increase in the numbers unemployed should not be a disaster. By releasing large numbers of under-employed people in the public service we can also release vast funds for the re-employment of people in new enterprises, both public and private.

The preservation of unneeded jobs prolongs the unemployment of those who could and would work in new ventures.

Failure of monetarism?

From Lord Harris of High Cross
Sir, I agree with Lord Vaisey (July 20) that David Blake (article, July 13) is in too much of a hurry to bury "monetarism". In his zeal to prove the failure of the British "experiment", your Economics Editor tries to enlist such leading practitioners of monetary policy as Germany and Switzerland among its opponents.

His reasoning is that they permit short-term increases above their monetary targets. Yet a few paragraphs later he taunts British policy with permitting excessive money growth to the point of raising doubts that "monetarism has not been tried".

Likewise, in his search for hostile witnesses, Mr Blake summons the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Bank for International Settlements for the prosecution. Yet, he has acknowledged, none of these central bankers in practice scorns monetary policy. Their criticism is that too much is being asked, or expected, of the necessary policy of controlling the money supply. All monetarists I know would agree.

Now your Economics Editor has come round to see that "monetarism is not enough", might he launch a discussion on the desirable supporting policy of removing obstacles to growth in real output? The more we can reduce unit costs (including rates and taxes), the further will a given money supply go in buying more goods and employing more labour.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
House of Lords.
July 20.

From Professor H. W. Singer and Professor A. R. Jolly
Sir, Your Washington Correspondent, Nicholas Ashford (July 16), pointed out that at the Ottawa summit of the Western countries President Reagan would be saying to the other leaders: "Trust us to put our own house in order and this will help you to put your own houses in order". He also reported the scepticism of the European countries to this approach.

Do you realise that this is precisely what the industrial countries argue in relation to Third World countries, and none more so than the UK? We say, in effect: "We must first put our own house in order; then we can resume our growth and help you put your own house in order."

If we Europeans are sceptical about the Americans putting their own domestic order first, can we not understand the developing countries being sceptical about our approach to their problems? Is there not a lesson here from the Ottawa meeting for the coming Mexican summit in October?

Yours faithfully,
H. W. SINGER,
RICHARD JOLLY,
The Institute of Development Studies,
University of Sussex,
Brighton, Sussex.

Support for literature
From the Secretary-General of the Arts Council
Sir, Your leader (July 18) calls literature's slice of the Arts Council cake "mean" and states that this is because publishing "in theory, at any rate, is still a commercial enterprise". I do not believe that this factor has shaped the policy of the literature panel. However, whereas dance, drama and music must rely mainly on the Arts Council for support, literature is very heavily supported by libraries, which are separately funded.

The grants and awards of the Arts Council are made for the benefit of the public rather than for the sole benefit of the artists, performers or writers. Literature policy is based on the opinion of the panel that what is needed at present is not more writers but more readers.

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Would *The Times* please thunder a little in support of the brave proposition now advanced by our industrialists, who are preaching what they themselves now practice?

Yours faithfully,
G. H. B. CATTELL,
19-23 Knightsbridge, SW1.

From Mr Gordon James
Sir, We have noted with considerable anxiety the intention to relax the statutory requirement that companies employing 20 or more staff should employ three per cent disabled persons.

Whilst it is a common fact that a percentage of companies do not comply with the statutory requirement, it is our experience that most reputable companies make some effort to offer a contribution to society by employing as many disabled people as they can in a variety of jobs.

We in Arthuris Care are particularly concerned at what can only be considered a retrograde step, particularly when our prime concern is to assist arthritic sufferers to remain useful members of the community.

None of the statements supporting the intention to abolish the statute gives any valid reason for eliminating it, and at the present time, when there are many other massive drains on the economy, I consider that every effort should be made to continue faithfully to employ people who are not only anxious to make their contribution, but would otherwise be yet another, unwilling, liability on the nation.

I trust therefore no retrograde action will be taken in this matter, without full discussion, not only with industry but with the welfare bodies, such as ourselves, who are working under ever-increasing financial strains to help a very considerable number of disabled people to continue to earn an honest living.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON JAMES, Chairman,
Arthuris Care,
6 Grosvenor Crescent, SW1.

From Mr Michael Norman
Sir, It is gratifying to see one's name in print in *The Times* as a paper of record for the first time (University of Kent results, July 18). It is surely going to be decades before one has another chance of such prominence — if ever — as one swims in a sea of three million unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NORMAN,
The Coach House,
Hammerwood Park,
East Grinstead,
Sussex.

The truth is we are not the narrow, simple sect of Mr Blake's imagination. We would certainly argue that a continuing policy of monetary restraint is essential to bring down inflation. But apart from reducing distortions and uncertainties about the course of future prices, monetary policy alone does not solve the problems of the real economy. There remains the need to tackle the multiple sources of inefficiency that raise costs and reduce employment. This points to more radical reform in nationalized industry and welfare, trade unions, central and local bureaucracy, and many aspects of planning and regulation.

Now your Economics Editor has come round to see that "monetarism is not enough", might he launch a discussion on the desirable supporting policy of removing obstacles to growth in real output? The more we can reduce unit costs (including rates and taxes), the further will a given money supply go in buying more goods and employing more labour.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
House of Lords.
July 20.

effect: "We must first put our own house in order; then we can resume our growth and help you put your own house in order."

If we Europeans are sceptical about the Americans putting their own domestic order first, can we not understand the developing countries being sceptical about our approach to their problems? Is there not a lesson here from the Ottawa meeting for the coming Mexican summit in October?

Yours faithfully,
H. W. SINGER,
RICHARD JOLLY,
The Institute of Development Studies,
University of Sussex,
Brighton, Sussex.

Support for literature
From the Secretary-General of the Arts Council
Sir, Your leader (July 18) calls literature's slice of the Arts Council cake "mean" and states that this is because publishing "in theory, at any rate, is still a commercial enterprise". I do not believe that this factor has shaped the policy of the literature panel. However, whereas dance, drama and music must rely mainly on the Arts Council for support, literature is very heavily supported by libraries, which are separately funded.

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Placing the cuts in university grants

From Sir Andrew Huxley, PRS
Sir, The general letter from the chairman of the University Grants Committee to vice-chancellors and principals (report, July 2) referred to advice received from among others, the Royal Society. I believe it appropriate now to say publicly that that advice was in favour of selectivity in the distribution of the funds being made available by government.

I and my colleagues on the Council of the Royal Society, therefore, applaud the endeavour of the UGC to support excellence and to foster important growing points. The need for greater selectivity of support within the university system has been apparent for some time, and the present crisis provides an opportunity for such selectivity.

However, in the implementation of the cuts there are risks of serious damage to several vital parts of the system and the greatest possible care and vigilance will be needed to avoid, or at least minimize, this damage. For instance, the recruitment of able young staff may dry up almost completely and this would be disastrous for research and education; special efforts will be needed to ensure a steady intake of very able young people.

The Council of the Royal Society will be monitoring the changes now taking place in the university system with reference to the wellbeing of science, including applied science and technology, their teaching and their impact in industry. These studies will be conducted in consultation with the vice-chancellors, and the society will be in close touch with the research councils and with other sponsors of research, including industry, which provide an essential third element in the support of university research.

We shall welcome specific information about individual groups engaged in high quality scientific or technological research which become seriously threatened by the cuts.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW HUXLEY, President,
The Royal Society,
6 Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1.
July 20.

Practical moderation

From Mr George Miks
Sir, Nearly all the newspapers and many politicians (some with avuncular benevolence, others with irony tinged with envy) have remarked that all's very well but the time has come now when the SDP must publish its detailed programme and bring out a manifesto.

They are quite wrong. Millions of voters, I am sure, would be perfectly content to put our affairs into the hands of honourable, moderate and experienced men (and women), expecting them to carry on in a sensible and pragmatic manner on a day-to-day or rather month-to-month basis.

It is natural that this should be so. Manifestos are the curse of both parties. The Government is more dogmatic and doctrinaire than old-fashioned Marxists because it has to stick to its programme. In the Labour Party of the main struggles is about who should write the manifesto which according to the left, once written must become a sacred scroll.

I am sure the Social Democrats are on safe ground as long as they refrain from publishing a manifesto. What the electorate wants is a decent and honest non-programme. Besides, everybody knows that the only election promise not broken is the one never given.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
GEORGE MIKS,
1b Dorncliffe Road, SW6.
July 18.

VAT on building repairs

From Mr Leslie K. Watson
Sir, Mr Richard Hayes's letter (July 14) asking for repairs to churches to be exempt from value-added tax prompts me to put the case for buildings which are "listed" on account of their architectural or historic interest. An owner need not be informed or consulted before his building is listed, but he is suddenly saddled with restrictions which will probably reduce its market value. He is expected to keep it in good repair, not to alter the fabric or its use, and not to demolish it without permission, which is frequently not given.

This heavy burden, which does not apply to owners of less important buildings, was imposed by Act of Parliament nearly 20 years ago in an effort to force owners of listed buildings to maintain them for the benefit of the general public but with no help from the state. This blatant disregard of natural justice could be alleviated if owners of listed buildings were excused from paying value-added tax on maintenance.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE K. WATSON,
Silver Birches,
West Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire.
July 16.

Spanish leave
From Mr M. S. Crowe
Sir, Perhaps it might have been more tactful to arrange for the Prince of Wales and his bride to join Britannia at Cadiz, with a little fishing off the adjoining cape to follow.

Yours faithfully,
M. S. CROWE,
Sunnyside,
Franksfield,
Peaslake,
Guildford.
July 22.

Rugby Union
**Controversy
through
the looking
glass**

From David Elias
Gisborne, July 22
Poverty Bay 6 South Africa 22

The Springboks rugby tour of New Zealand has opened with controversy on the field as well as the political row. The South Africans have developed a new lineout technique which could have been borrowed from Australian Rules football. In practice it was clear that the second row forward, Heinie Bekker was being overused.

into the air like a ballerina and so in the first lineup of the series he was penalised.

The Springboks did not bother again but to even the score the Poverty Bay pack tried the same thing, having quickly mastered the technique in practice this week after watching the Springboks in training through binoculars from

The legality of the tactic will now be discussed at a special conference between the Springboks' team managers and the New Zealand Referees' Association.

Meanwhile, the South Africans scored a decisive 18-point victory, by two goals and three tries.

Bay, although the result does not do justice to the New Zealanders.

In the heavy conditions, Poverty Bay played like a bunch of mud-larks who looked most dangerous when they let the conditions work for them: The South Africans, fielding far from their strongest side, took a long time to settle down and never came to terms

Poverty Bay allowed the sticky ball to run loose where possible and chase it down in the often fulfilled hope that the Springboks would mishandle. They gained good possession from both the loose and the set pieces and for

The Springboks succeeded because of their superior finishing once they had gained the right possession.

The Springboks broke the deadlock three minutes before the end

Darius Eotha, was caught on the edge of a Maul, from which the ball was spun through the back-line to Krantz. He skittered round the cover, chipped over the head of the full back, Muir, gathered again on the bounce and dived over the line.

Poverty Bay pushed the Springboks back in the final quarter of the match, but their only rewards were two penalties by Waitire.

Rugby Union captain, Jean-Pierre Rires, is to have an operation on the dislocated shoulder he suffered during France's recent tour of Australia.

Rugby League TV deal

The Rugby League yesterday announced a new one-year agree-

ment with Independent Television for the screening of League matches on Monday nights. Last year nine matches were shown on Yorkshire and Granada Television. This season there will be 16 League matches shown on the two channels and Border Television. The BBC will continue to show the John Player Trophy and Challenge Cup matches and they

Athletics
Two to catch selectors' eye
David Moorcroft and David Jen-

kings plan to present Britain's athletics selectors with a Europa Cup problem at Crystal Palace tomorrow. Moorcroft, who has been recovering from an injury to both his calves, recently recorded the third fastest time for the 5,000 metres in the world this year, but still thinks that Barry Smith will be chosen for the Europa Cup final in Zagreb.

Jenkins has also returned to form after injury and is hoping the selectors will pick him for both the 400 metres and 4 x 400 metres relay. "The present 400 metres contingent is not strong," he said. "I've got the will to win and would like to run the individual 400 metres."

Six in tie in Queen's Prize
Six competitors, one of them Canadian, outshot the 1,200 in the first stage of the Queen's Prize competition at Bisley yester-

day, putting every shot into the bulls-eye for the highest possible score, 105, with seven shot at 300, 500 and 600 yards. Our Rifle shooting correspondent reports. The six were: Vicki Boa of Toronto, Sandra Hind of the Old Nottinghamians Rifle Club, A. A. Jobling (Old Epsomians), D. B. Lumby (Manchester), B. J. Le Cheminant (Lancet), and Sergeant

The contest, fierce in torrential rain for most of the time, was the eliminating round to select the 400 who will shoot in the semi-final on Saturday morning, from which the 100 finalists will be drawn.

the rain at 600 yards, missed the target twice to finish with 95.

INTER-SERVICE LONG RANGE: 1. R. A. Canty, 2. C. A. Gault, 3. Territorial Army, 539.

POLICE PISTOL TEAM CUP: 1. Northumbria, 2. 1,025, 3. Northumbria, 4. A. C. 1,025, 5. Northumbria.

STOCK EXCHANGE ACCURATE CHALLENGE CUP: 1. S. J. Pollman, 2. Uppingham School, 14, 3. S. E. White, 18, 4. 1, 11, 5. E. White, 11, 6. C. A. Gushaw, 11.

BELGIUM CHALLENGE CUP: 1.

Cycling

SCOTTISH HEALTH RACE (1st IP)
Spring, 93 miles; Second stage:
1. G. Ball (GB) 2h 27 min 7.2
2. J. Murch (Czechoslovakia), same time
3. A. Kozladinov (Czechoslovakia), 2h 28
5:67:58. 5. P. Meas (Netherlands).
6. 3. M. Kloss (Czechoslovakia).

1. USSR, 12:57:10; 2. East Germany, 12:58:00; 3. Czechoslovakia, 12:58:41; 4. Great Britain, 1:58:59; Overall: 1. Kossnadzev, 49:22; 2. Jurco, 7:45:37; 3. Pasko, Czechoslovakia, 7:50:16; 4. Klau, 58:30; 5. Bell, 7:58:43; 6. P. Denis, England, 7:58:41; Overall team: 1. Czechoslovakia, 23:29:5; 2. Kru, Canada, 23:57:10; 3. Great Britain, 4:0:38.

... ..

Tighter rules
for unit
trusts? Page 21

Business News

THE TIMES July 23, 1981

Little comfort
for Third
World, page 21

MPs press for action to end 'black economy'

By Melvyn Westlake

MPs are pressing the Inland Revenue to take tougher action to suppress the "black economy" — business activity that eludes the taxman, whether through moonlighting, casual working or other undeclared employment.

With such activity estimated by the Revenue to account for about 7.5 per cent of the nation's output of goods and services, costing £4,000m in lost tax, the MPs say, in a report published yesterday, that "there is a real danger of tax evasion coming to be regarded as socially and morally acceptable."

The consequences could spread beyond the limits of the "black economy" and they consider it important that the Inland Revenue should be seen to be making strenuous efforts to contain and reduce such activity.

The report comes from the Committee of Public Accounts, Parliament's watchdog on Government expenditure, which is chaired by Mr Joel Barnett, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury in the last Labour Government.

Experts disagree about the size of the "black economy". Some believe that the figure of 7.5 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product is an exaggeration while others put it much higher than the Inland Revenue's estimate.

The PAC is worried that in trying to achieve predetermined targets for manpower levels the department might miss opportunities to increase the level of revenue that it collects. The committee believes that with a "black economy" running at around £4,000m there are areas where the deployment of additional resources would be likely to produce direct returns many times greater than the extra staff costs involved.

Of perhaps even greater consequence, the committee argues, is the likely effect on standards of compliance generally. Twelfth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, (HMSO, £3.90).

CALL FOR BRITAIN TO JOIN EMS

It is high time Britain joined the European Monetary System (EMS), M Francois-Xavier Ortoli, vice president of the European Commission, said today when introducing the Commission's medium term economic policy programme for 1981-1985, which he had written as the Commissioner for Economic Affairs.

There were, he said, obvious obstacles to Britain joining the EMS, but these could be overcome and the advantages would outweigh the disadvantages. With sterling inside the "super-sack" it would help Europe to reach its goals and strengthen its institutions.

Negotiations should also be resumed with Greece on joining the EMS, although he felt that as a new member it had a number of adjustments to make before this might be possible.

Next year the Commission would be proposing it was time He wanted to see member states adopt a policy whereby all school leavers either had a job, a training programme or a sandwich course offered to them.

Break the pensions fettters, Jenkin urges

By Baron Phillips



Jenkin: effective way of freeing labour market

Job mobility in Britain is being seriously hampered by pension schemes which penalize employees who change companies frequently, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday. He urged employers to break the "pensions fetters" and allow employees greater mobility without their losing tens of thousands of pounds. Mr Jenkin gave a warning that if pension schemes do not quickly remedy the situation, the Government will be forced to legislate.

Speaking at a London conference on Protecting the Pensioners of Job Changers, Mr Jenkin said: "Pension schemes, as at present conceived and run, put a huge premium on the man who makes his whole career in one firm. Conversely, they put a huge penalty on a man who decides, or is forced, to change jobs several times in his lifetime."

Calculations of the contributions needed for pensions are based on the assumption that only a limited number of people will qualify for a full pension. Mr Jenkin said: "The so-called early leaver pays for the man who stays on. He is not prepared to do so for much longer."

One of the most effective

ways of freeing the labour market is for employers to give better protection to early leavers, especially for middle and senior staff, the Secretary of State claimed. This would make a contribution to economic regeneration at a fraction of the cost of some of the more extravagant ideas presently in vogue.

He pointed out that some industries already provide a measure of such protection. The Plumbing and Mechanical Services Industry Pension

Scheme, with 2,000 member companies, ensures substantial protection for people who move from one company to another. The Motor Agents' Association runs a scheme in which employees' pensions are unaffected by the number of jobs they have held and pensions are based on final salary at retirement.

Some employees who leave companies before retirement are having to resort to an annuity contract taken out with an insurance group to protect their long-term benefits, Mr Jenkin said.

"It is a sombre thought for the pension fund movement that, even though it is customary for the employer to contribute twice as much as the employee, people are now believing that they could do better, over a lifetime, making their own provisions."

The Government is proposing to legislate against companies temporarily giving up their contracting-out status to gain financial advantage at the expense of the National Insurance Fund, Mr Jenkin told the conference. New legislation would cancel a contracting-out certificate where it is clear the provisions of the regulations have been exploited.

BP joins in attack on North Sea policy

By Rupert Morris

BP and the British oil exploration companies joined forces yesterday in a strong attack on the Government's North Sea depletion policy.

They said that it was inconsistent, unclear and counter-productive. High taxes on North Sea operators, which amounted to a depletion policy, undermined confidence and delayed exploration and investment decisions, the companies told the Commons Select Committee on Energy.

"There is no question that the fiscal regime has had a profound effect on production," Mr Roger Bexon, BP managing director, said. "How can we make investment decisions when we don't know what Government fiscal policy is going to be?"

In its written evidence, BP said that technical measures on top of technical problems, had led to production slippages. Last year, for instance, only 80.5 million tonnes of oil were produced, compared with a 1975 estimate of between 100 million and 300 million tonnes.

BP recommends that if there has to be a depletion policy it should be clear, and should allow maximum development to realize immediate economic benefits, thereby maximizing opportunities for developing alternative energy sources.

The encouragement of exploration and development by means of a well-regulated licensing system is urged to ensure that the five to ten-year lead time from discovery to commercial production should not lead to a decline in production in the late 1980s.

Mr Bexon told the MPs that if the Government wanted to

retain production flexibility, it could delay production of its own Royal Oil, without interfering with other commercial operations.

He said the Government should consider urgently how to replace the "Varley assurances" given in 1974, which set a 1982 limit on production cutbacks from discoveries made up to the end of 1975.

BP, which produced a third of the United Kingdom's oil, 540,000 barrels a day, last year, is also being asked by the Government to invest money in a gas-gathering pipeline for the North Sea. It has so far appeared reluctant to put up the money.

In its evidence yesterday BP called on the Government to undertake a complete review of gas policy, which it says is distorted by the British Gas monopoly.

Support for BP's views came from the Association of British Independent Oil Exploration Companies, which called for "an unequivocal statement" on depletion policy.

Giving evidence immediately after BP, the association concluded: "We believe it is unlikely that there will ever be a sufficient surplus of crude oil to justify depletion."

The association described the drop in oil consumption during 1980 as "disconcerting — the current surplus of production over consumption being 11 per cent — but added that this was probably a temporary phenomenon.

The companies emphasize the importance of using the new understanding of North Sea geology to drill more exploration and appraisal wells and more dry holes to find more essential fields.

Coffee hit by frost in Brazil

By Michael Prest

Commodities Correspondent. Coffee traders and processors yesterday struggled to assess the damage wrought by two successive nights of frost in Brazil's coffee growing regions.

Reports that 20 per cent of Brazil's 1982/3 crop could have been destroyed sent prices soaring on London coffee markets. The price of coffee for immediate delivery was \$1.155 a tonne by the close of business yesterday, compared with \$863 on Monday.

But food manufacturers are cautious about the impact on prices in the shops. A spokesman for Nestlé, which has about 40 per cent of the British instant coffee market, said the company would not be making any decision until the extent of the frost was known.

Some sources stress that the cold weather and winds which struck the coffee growing regions at the beginning of the week have not harmed this year's crop, most of which is already harvested. The crop is estimated at 32.1 million bags. A bag is 60 kilograms.

Concern centres, however, on the next crop. Coffee trees in the states of Paraná, São Paulo, and Minas Gerais, have suffered damage to their leaves, buds and external branches.

But reports indicate that the trunks have not been harmed. This means they can return to full production in 1983-84.

The 1982-83 crop is officially forecast as between 27 million and 30 million bags. A full investigation of the damage is being undertaken by the Brazilian Coffee Institute, and will be ready next week. But tentative estimates put the damage at about 20 per cent of the crop, or 6 million bags.



Making
light work
of phone
calls

Many strands make light work of carrying thousands of telephone conversations. The optical fibre cable that technician Ian Harrison is carrying out the same job as the heavy drum of standard telephone cable behind her. A trial system of the multistrand optical fibre cable, which carries telephone calls by laser light, is operating between British Telecom's research centre at Martlesham, Suffolk, and the exchange at Ipswich. For details of the fibre optics network, see page 20.

Government sells its British Sugar stake

By Michael Prest

The Government yesterday sold its 24 per cent holding in British Sugar Corporation for £44m to about 150 City institutions.

S. W. Berisford, the commodity trader whose £20m bid for British Sugar lapsed at the beginning of this month, added another 2 per cent to its stake, which now totals 40 per cent.

The investment institutions bought the shares in fairly small lots at 305p each. The price on Monday evening had been 318p, and it rose to 326p, by the close of business.

Mr John Beckett, chief executive of British Sugar, said he was delighted by the sale of the Government stake, which had been depressing the company's share price. He said he had been pressing the Government to sell since its election.

His view was shared by Mr Gordon Percival, a director of Berisford, who said the sale ensured a fairer distribution of shares and removed an oddity from the market.

The placing was arranged by Lagard, the merchant bank advising the Government, and executed by three firms of stockbrokers, Cazenove, Rowe & Pitman and Greenwells.

It adds a significant influence to the Government's influence in the industry since the formation of British Sugar in 1936. A major complication has been removed from any possible renewed bid by Berisford for British Sugar.

It is understood that Berisford is now interested in getting a director on the British Sugar board.

British Sugar has not received a formal request and Mr Beckett said the board's reaction to such a move would partly depend on its assessment of Berisford's intentions.

The rise in the British Sugar price after the sale was completed reflected the view long held in the market that the company, which has forecast pretax profits of £49m this year, has been undervalued.

There is, however, another large stake in British Sugar which could be sold. The company's merchant bankers, Schroder, Wages, bought about 2.5 per cent during the takeover battle to support the price.

Mr Tom Whyte, whose Triumph Investment Trust was one of the more spectacular casualties of the secondary banking crisis, continues to make his comeback in the City.

After his abortive attempt to organize a takeover of money brokers R P Martin, Mr Whyte has emerged as the power behind Bermuda-based Pagar Agencies which declared a near-15 per cent interest in Sangster, the pharmaceutical wholesaler, on Tuesday.

Pagar owns 7.6 per cent of the shares directly and another 7.2 per cent is controlled by associates. Mr Whyte is confident that Sangster can overcome the past two years of sharply falling profits but for the time being is describing the stake as purely an investment.

Sangster shares closed 6p higher at their year's high of 84p.

Chrysler profit
Chrysler, kept afloat in part with \$1.200m in government loan guarantees, has announced its first profit since 1978.

Mr Bill Stempien, a company spokesman, said: "There is going to be a profit for the second quarter, but would not say how much. Mr Lee Iacocca, Chrysler president, was to provide details later."

Chrysler's last profit was \$43.1m in the fourth quarter of 1978. Since then it has lost nearly \$3,200m.

Exxon profits for the second quarter sharply rose to \$1,825m (£985.4m) but Conoco reported a 36.4 per cent fall in its operating income to \$158.7m (£84.8m).

Private funding proposal on steel rationalization

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Use of institutional funds to achieve a rationalization of Britain's special steels industry is expected to be among proposals in a report to be published today.

The report is based on an investigation, undertaken by Professor Sir Frederick Warner, with the support of the Bank of England, into prospects for the special steels industry, concentrated principally in the Sheffield area.

Its publication follows a meeting yesterday between Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, over British Steel's progress toward its target of breaking even in 1982-83. Mr MacGregor later met members of the TUC Steel Committee.

Mr MacGregor emphasized the need for further extensive cost cutting throughout the corporation and said there could be no guarantee that there would not be further plant closures. The alternative, he emphasized, was a clear recognition of the problems and operation in reducing the still heavy losses being sustained as a result of low European steel prices.

British Steel has delayed its review of the corporate plan approved by the Government earlier this year because of uncertainty over the effectiveness of the latest measures introduced to stabilize the European steel market and boost prices.

Mr MacGregor, who told the steel union leaders that the corporation needed to make further cost cutting moves and manpower reductions, will prepare further plans and submit them to the energy secretary in September.

Mr MacGregor is known to be concerned about the failure of the Ravenscroft plant in Scotland to reach performance targets. Technical problems at the Redcar coke ovens and blast furnace at the corporation's Teesside works have made the targets difficult.

Although the Government is not involved in the special steels study, the Department of Industry has applauded the initiative toward reorganizing the industry.

The Warner study covered companies producing high-speed tool steels and stainless steels, which are widely used in the automotive, machine tools and aerospace industries. Such companies as Firth



Sir Frederick: Seeking to solve problem of overcapacity

Brown, Neesend, Aurora Steels and Sanderson Kayser also have been concerned about the increase in imports from Scandinavia, Austria, West Germany and elsewhere.

The special steels companies employ between 2,000 and 3,000 workers. Their products range from stainless steel bars costing about £300 a tonne to alloy steels costing about £7,000 a tonne.

The Warner inquiry was launched in May after months of discussion between the Bank and steel companies. Sir Frederick's report is expected to concentrate on private-sector solutions to the problem of overcapacity rather than looking for Government funding of a reorganization.

Coal board may cut 400 jobs in Wales

The National Coal Board yesterday announced a cut of up to 400 jobs in South Wales over the next two years.

Mr Philip Weekes, NCB area director, explained the board's cost-saving programme to management and clerical trade unions. He said the board wanted to achieve the reduction with early retirements, voluntary redundancies and natural wastage.

Heavy financial losses have been made in the South Wales coalfield. Full details will be given next week in the NCB annual report, but the board already has indicated that the losses were in excess of £60m during the last financial year. The reduction in jobs could be less than the "optimum figure" of 400.



GENERALI
Assicurazioni Generali

Report of the Board of Directors 1980 Highlights

Income (000 US Dollars)	1,461,276
Premiums gross	1,499,652
ceded	268,494
Net investment income	214,396
Profit on sale of investments	15,722
Expenditures (000 US Dollars)	1,419,402
Claims, maturities and surrenders	611,318
Increase in technical reserves	353,062
Acquisition and management expenses	422,916
Taxes	3,736
Unrealised capital losses on securities	18,529
Other expenditures	9,841
Profit	41,874
Per Share (Dollars)	
Profit	1.68
Dividends	1.02

- Premiums written exceeded US \$ 1,499m (+21.3%).
- Technical reserves amounted to US \$ 2,762m (+US \$ 414m).
- Investments totalled US \$ 3,091m an increase of US \$ 490m (+18.8%).
- Net investment income increased to US \$ 214.4m (+29%). Profit on sale of investments of US \$ 15.7m consisted of US \$ 4.6m from the sale of real estate and US \$ 11.1m from trading in securities.
- Capital and free reserves show a surplus of US \$ 76m over the minimum solvency margin requirements.
- Profit for year was US \$ 41.9m from which US \$ 11.8m was allocated to an extraordinary reserve.
- Dividends per share amounted to US \$ 1.02 on capital of 107.5m resulting in a 26.7% increase.

TODAY

British Airways Authority annual report.
New vehicle registrations.
Engineering industry sales and orders.
Company results: Inchcape Investments (finals), MFI Furniture (finals).

Stock markets

FT Index 517.0 up 4.8
FT Gilts 63.81 up 0.68

Sterling

\$1.8550 up 1.2 cents
Index 91.8 up 0.1
New York: \$1.8592

Dollar

Index 111.6 down 0.3
DM 2.4415 down 275 pts

Gold

\$411 up \$4
New York: 5408

Money

3 mth sterling 141-144
3 mth Euro \$ 181-183
6 mth Euro \$ 181-181

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Atlantic Res 30p to 220p
Rich East 15p to 120p
Rindley Hldgs 15p to 230p
Ulrich Corp 13p to 725p
Amersham 'A' 10p to 640p
Elm 10p to 190p
Ismo 12p to 574p
IT 10p to 380p
Telt Trans 10p to 374p
Aardard Tel 10p to 457p
In Alliance 10p to 894p
Iorn EMI 10p to 448p

Falls

b-Latham 7p to 278p
Lithium Motor 14p to 102p
h & Lacy 21p to 250p
IFW 2p to 30p
Hldgs 2p to 30p
Review East 6p to 120p
Robinson 10p to 100p
King Kong 13p to 512p
Leod Russel 13p to 275p
Mark L 5p to 330p
Est B 3p to 31p
Teley Ind 10p to 228p

Mobil may raise bid

Mobil Corporation appears ready to increase its \$7,740m (£4,150m) bid for Conoco. The increased bid may force rivals Du Pont and Seagrams to raise their own offers or abandon their campaigns.

Mobil said last night: "It is considering revising the structure and pricing of its cash offer so that it would be at least as high per share as the \$95 per share cash portion of the Du Pont offer."

Seagrams is offering \$85 per share in cash for 51 per cent of Conoco. Du Pont is offering \$95 per share in cash for 40 per cent and offering a share exchange for the remaining 60 per cent.

Pound steadier and gilts gain

The pound had a better day on foreign exchange markets yesterday, recovering 1.2 cents against the dollar to close at \$1.8550. But the pound's steady performance was really no more than a reflection of profit-taking in the dollar.

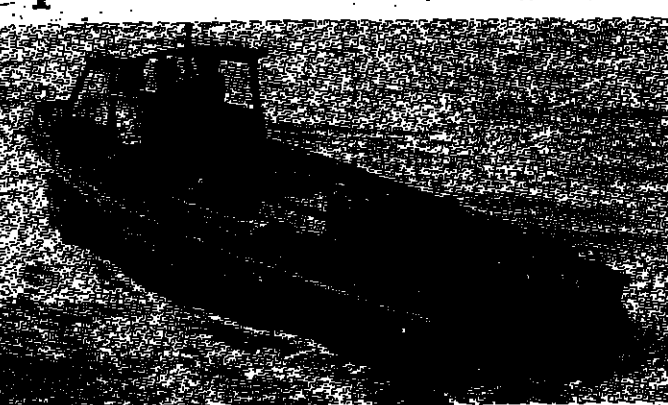
News of a fall in American gnp and inflation in the second quarter raised fresh expectations that dollar interest rates may now be at their peak.

In London, money market interest rates closed little changed after a firmer opening. The Bank supplied funds to the discount market at 12-12 1/2 per cent. Medium and long gilts scored gains of £1 or more.

The London Gold Futures Market intends to go ahead with plans for a 100 ounce gold futures contract dominated in sterling, but it will not be traded on the London Metal Exchange. No opening date or venue has yet been agreed.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Ugly Fairey weaves a spell to attract £20m



A company of boat builders on the Hamble associated with sleek Rummy cruisers yesterday celebrated the success of its ugliest craft in attracting orders worth £20m. Fairey Allday Marine has built 100 combat support boats (one pictured above) for the British and United States armies and Mr Ian Sutherland, the company's managing director, revealed that discussions are in progress with the Americans for a further 70.

Sizewell inquiry

Sir Frank Layfield, the QC who chaired the committee of inquiry into local government finance in 1974-76, has been appointed inspector for next year's public inquiry into the proposed Sizewell B nuclear power station in Suffolk.

The appointment was announced yesterday by Mr David Howell, the Energy Secretary.

A delegation from the TUC's textile, clothing and footwear industries committee will meet Government ministers tomorrow to discuss Government moves to combat recession in the textile industry.

Hunts to pay

Mr Nelson-Bunker Hunt and Mr Herbert Hunt have agreed to pay United States authorities \$500,000 (£270,000) in respect of their speculation in soyabean futures. The brothers also have been banned from the soyabean market for two years.

They were accused of trying to manipulate the futures market in 1977.

Hughes Aircraft is reentering the bidding for radar equipment in Britain after the British Government forced the cancellation of a \$40m (£21.5m) contract that Hughes had won.

IMI stays in the hunt for US takeovers

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

IMI, one of Britain's top 50 manufacturing groups, said yesterday that it would go ahead with a programme of acquisitions in America despite sterling's fall to a three year low against the dollar.

Mr Eric Swainson, IMI's managing director, said: "There is no disguising the fact that sterling's fall is a blow, but we have to take the long-term view and plan for 10 to 20 years ahead."

"It will make acquisitions more expensive initially but this is offset by the prospect of improved sterling profits resulting from a strong dollar."

IMI has sought to lessen its dependence on the UK economy since December 1977 when ICI sold its controlling 62 per cent holding in its former subsidiary. Some 60 per cent of its output is manufactured in Britain, although 20 per cent of this is sold overseas.

"For a company of its size — the 1980 turnover was £625m — it has a relatively small proportion of its manufacturing located outside Britain."

The Birmingham based company was expected to spread its wings long before this. There is no doubt that the board felt restricted by ICI dominance. So why wait three years to make a move and what was the middle of the worst recession for 30 years?

The answer is to be found in the relatively poor performance of IMI's shares since the company's uncertainty over the company's prospects after ICI's total divestment.

But over the past year the share price has strengthened, enabling IMI to make a recent rights issue which raised £27.5m and gave it the increased capital and flexibility to go hunting in the US.

Mr Swainson said the recession had underlined the danger of companies becoming

£15m fibre optic orders boost phone network

By Bill Johnstone

British Telecom has placed orders worth £15m in the second stage of its plan to include fibre optic cabling into its national network. The orders have gone to Electric Cable Company (ECC), Telephone Cables, Plessey, BICC and STC.

The second stage, which represents 800km of cabling, will be laid on 24 routes during 1982-1985. The first part of the programme began two years ago with orders for 450km of cable worth about £16m.

The optical fibre is a strand of glass as thin as a human hair capable of transmitting up to 2,000 telephone calls simultaneously. Instead of electrical signals being carried as in conventional cabling the information, either voice or data, is represented by a series of high — pulses of light. The light signals can travel much further in this type of cable before they need to be boosted.

Further orders for electronic equipment which directs and interprets the signals will be placed with other British manufacturers.

British Telecom, however, has stressed that the investment in fibre optic cabling is just one part of the corporation's overall programme to produce a high speed digital network throughout Britain. That investment will be about £2,000m a year for the next five years.

Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, said: "We expect to buy and install at least 100,000 km of fibre during the 1980s to create a network embracing all of Britain's major cities."

Optical fibres are expected to account for about half of the long distance trunk network capacity of British Telecom by 1990. According to the corporation

the fibre would make "massive savings in the cost of running and enlarging the telecommunications network".

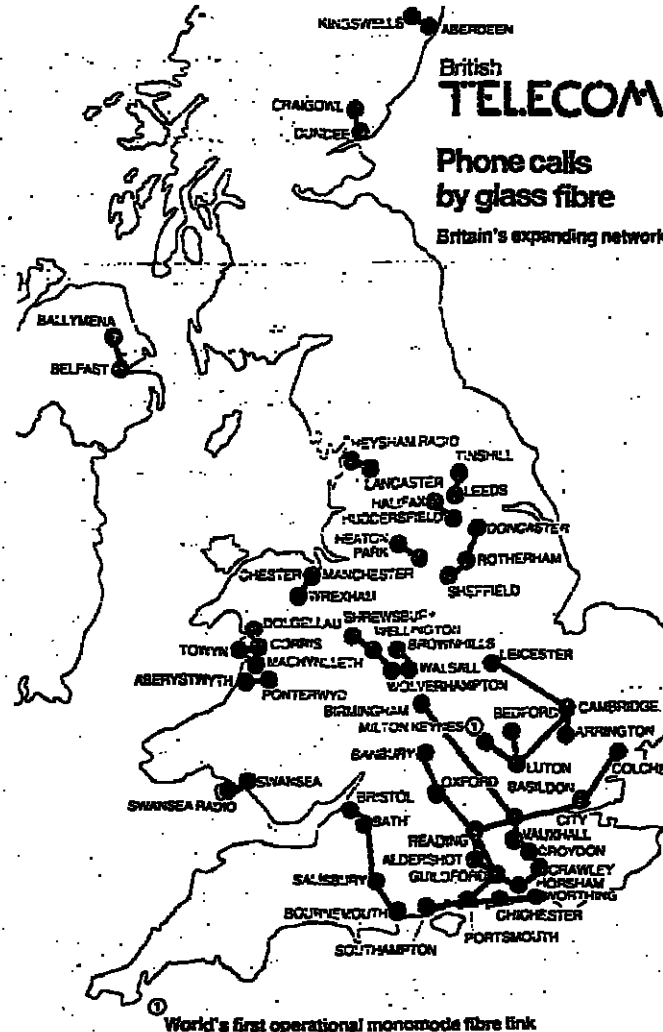
As part of the national plan British Telecom has placed an order for the world's first fibre link using an advanced technique called monomode technology.

With monomode transmission the light signals can travel 10 to 15 times further than in

conventional cabling. British Telecom's own researchers at Martlesham, Suffolk, are experimenting with the monomode fibre.

The first monomode link of about 27 km will be laid between Luton and Milton Keynes, and will be completed by 1984.

British Telecom has developed a method of Martlesham for the production of certain



Through the eye of a needle: A single strand of fibre optic cable being drawn from a glass rod. Fibre optics — glass strands as thin as a human hair — capable of taking up to 2,000 telephone calls simultaneously will, over the next decade, carry about half of British Telecom's long-distance trunk traffic. The corporation will lay at least 100,000 km of the optical fibre in the national network during the 1980s, linking all Britain's major cities.

Indicators point to American recession

From Frank Vogl

Figures released today by the Department of Commerce point to the onset of an American recession as well as a significant decline in inflation. The main cause of these trends is unquestionably the record level of interest rates.

Economic activity fell sharply in the second quarter of the year and most economists expect further declines in the current quarter. A recession is generally defined in the United States as two quarters of negative growth.

The Commerce Department reported that the gross national product fell at an annual rate of 1.9 per cent in the last quarter, after rising by 8.6 per cent in the first quarter. Inflation slowed to an annual rate of 6 per cent in the last three months, from 9.8 per cent in the first quarter.

Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the Secretary of Commerce, said he expects that the current quarter will be flat — a view shared by the Federal Reserve Board and the Council of Economic Advisors. "Business is going to be in a tough time for the rest of the year," he said.

White House officials were not surprised by the new figures. Mr Larry Speakes, spokesman for President Reagan, said that several months of economic weakness were expected before a strengthening of the economy in the second half of the year.

He described the figures as "another clear-cut demonstration of the need for quick congressional action of the President's economic programme which will stimulate growth, investment and savings by individuals."

In testimony before a congressional committee today Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said money supply growth would continue to be tightly restrained.

In the money markets the rate for federal funds rose to 21 per cent. If this holds for a few days, prime rates are certain.

The ways and means committee of the House of Representatives today completed work on a tax bill, but in many respects it differs from the one the Senate will approve.

The decline in G.N.P. in the second quarter was largely due to a fall in real final sales of 4.8 per cent, after a first quarter gain of 6.9 per cent. Lower exports and lower business investment spending were important factors, but a sharp decline in new car sales was the main cause of the sales drop.

Steam coal cargo boom predicted

A booming world sea-going trade in steam coal is being forecast by London shipping brokers, but it is unlikely to take off before 1985.

Brokers Galbraith Wrightson say that many experts have been predicting such a boom for some time, as a cheaper alternative to high-priced oil. The main obstacle is the lack of sufficient investment in expanded port and handling facilities, the brokers say.

At the same time growth in the coking coal trades is still being hindered by a slow recovery in the iron and steel industries.

A great deal of interest is being shown in shipping circles in building new vessels powered by coal-fired engines, the brokers report. But they add that these new ships have to be large to be viable, at least 50,000-60,000 dwt.

IN BRIEF

Oil exports tumble

Kuwait's crude oil exports have dropped to their lowest level in a decade, the Al-Wakeel newspaper reported. Kuwait cut back production from 1.5m to 1.25m barrels a day on April 1 to slow the depletion of its reserves and to hedge against the glut in the world oil markets.

Engines for Italy

Daihatsu of Japan said it had signed a contract with Nuova Innocenti of Milan to supply car engines and transmissions. The Japanese-built 1,000cc three-cylinder engines will be mounted on small cars made by Innocenti, Daihatsu said. They did not disclose the cost. About 7,000 sets will be delivered this year, rising to 30,000 next year and 40,000 in 1983.

£659m for Scotland

Tourism in Scotland last year earned £659m, £89m more than the previous year. This was despite fewer overseas visitors, a downturn in the hotel trade, shorter holidays, bad weather and the recession. Mr Alan Deane, chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board, said.

Car parts for France

Toyota Motor affiliate, Aisin Seiki, said it has entered an agreement for long-term supply of car parts to the French car manufacturers, Renault and Peugeot-Citroen. It declined to disclose contract values or the duration of the supply agreement, but it said it will supply Peugeot-Citroen with about 200,000 window regulators a year and Renault with 100,000.

£8m plant orders

Terex, the earth moving plant manufacturer, has won export orders worth more than £8m in the past month for machines to be used in construction projects in Spain, Indonesia, Iraq and Nigeria. The company employs 1,500 at its plant at Newhouse, Lanarkshire.

Seiko watches deal

Daini Seikosha, manufacturer of Seiko watches, has signed an agreement with China's Shanghai municipal watch manufacturing factory to assemble movements for automatic wristwatches.

Mexican oil talks

Talks between Japanese and Mexican officials on oil shipments continued yesterday, but without any signs of progress, Japanese government sources said. Officials of Mexico's national oil company, Pemex, are in Tokyo for a week-long visit in an attempt to persuade Japanese to import more Mexican crude oil beyond their present 100,000 barrels a day, possibly to as much as 300,000 barrels.

Gas exports down

Dutch gas exports fell 3.4 per cent to 25,200 cubic metres in first half 1981 from 26,100m in the same 1980 period. Domestic sales fell 1.5 per cent and total sales by 5 per cent. A resumption of Algerian gas deliveries enabled France to cut its use of Dutch gas.

Australian oil

Australian oil exploration should continue to find new reserves at an average 200 million barrels a year until 2000, Esso Australia said. New finds could balance reservoir depletion at present output rates, provided producers have incentives to make the necessary big investments, the company said. Australia has reserves of 1,870 million barrels, of which about 92 per cent is in the Bass Strait.

W German policy

The West German Central Bank's monetary policy, and not government borrowing, has been the decisive factor behind the rise in German capital market interest rates, Herr Hans Matthöfer, the West German finance minister, said. The bank has been forced to raise interest rates to prevent a strong outflow of private capital attracted by high American interest rates.

Iraqi train contract

Thyssen Henschel, a subsidiary of Thyssen AG, has received a DM250m (£54m) contract from Iraq to build 82 locomotives. Deliveries will begin towards the end of 1982.

Noise level code 'would cost industry £1,000m'

By Edward Townsend

The Confederation of British Industry is warning yesterday that if companies were forced by legislation to adopt maximum proposed standards on factory noise levels, industry could be faced with a bill totalling £1,000m.

Profits, investment and employment would be hit, said the CBI, and large sectors of industry could be faced with closure.

The CBI's comments precede the publication, expected soon, of a Health and Safety Commission consultative document on the protection at work, which will contain pro-

Further decline is facing builders

By Nicholas Cole

Output in the construction industry by 1982 will probably have declined to its lowest level for more than 20 years, according to the National Council of Building Material Producers.

In its latest report, the council's forecasting panel predicts that output will fall by an overall 11.5 per cent this year, with a further fall of 0.5 per cent next year. This would be the lowest level since 1961.

"The main falls are in public new housing, private industrial building and public non-housing work," the panel says.

Even housing repair, maintenance and improvement, which has been assuming an increasingly important role in total output, is due to plunge "very sharply indeed." The fall will be 13 per cent during the present year, the first drop since 1975-76. Repair, maintenance and improvement works are acutely sensitive to real income levels, and these are not holding up at present.

The fall in do-it-yourself

activity is expected to be even greater this year, but movements in this sector are not quantified by the panel.

The construction industry is not expected to recover until 1983, with a rise in output of 5 per cent. The recovery will be most noticeable in private housebuilding, housing repairs and improvement, and industrial building.

Housing starts in the public sector are unlikely to exceed 30,000 annually before the end of 1983, while the "much-vaunted revival" in private housebuilding starts has turned out to be "a false dawn".

Consequently, the panel has reduced its April forecast by 10,000 and now expects the volume of starts to be 110,000 this year. This will rise gradually to 125,000 in 1982, in anticipation of recovery in 1983, when 135,000 homes are expected to be started by private builders.

Figures also show there has been a heavy decline in new work in the public sector.

New deal for scrap sought

By Baron Phillips

The establishment of a marketing board to represent the home and overseas markets for Britain's ferrous scrap industry is being actively canvassed by the British Scrap Federation.

The move underlines the federation's belief that the industry must be restructured and reorganised if it is to survive.

Scrap is the last sector of the iron and steel industry to consider its position in the market and the federation feels that a marketing board may hold the key to survival.

The establishment of such a board would do much to reduce the wasteful competition for supplies which exists within the industry. It could also have a

degree of success in attracting private sector finance such as the Lazard scheme for reorganising the steel casting sector.

These thoughts emerged when Mr Colin Nutter, president of the British Scrap Federation, announced the industry's half year consumption figures. The industry's decline last year appears to have halted with sales increasing from 3,341 million tonnes in the last six months of 1980 to just under 4 million tonnes by the end of June.

Mr Nutter pointed out that more than 30 of the federation's members have either ceased trading or closed depots, which is equivalent to about 6 per cent of total membership.

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C.P. Drinkwater, Chairman

A total dividend of 0.3125p per share recommended which is the same as last year after adjusting for capitalisation.

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Oil
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Business appointments

RTZ names a new director

Mr George R. Albino has been appointed a director of The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation.

Mr J. R. Parry has been made secretary of The British Electric Traction Company with effect from July 23 following the retirement of Mr N. L. H. Smith.

Dr Brian Bailey has been named as director general of the United Association for the Protection of Trade. He succeeds Mr C. McNeil Greig, who retired at the end of July.

Mr J. N. Davenport and Mr J. McInyre have become members of the board of directors of M.I.M. Holdings.

Mr John Kerslake has been appointed finance director of L&C Industrial Holdings.

Mr Chris Bradshaw has been named as business development director of UB (Biscuits). Mr John Capstick becomes catering managing director.

Mr F. K. Thomson has been appointed a director of Willis Faber and Mr K. M. Grafton-Gratton executive director of the international division of Willis Faber & Dumas.

Mr Rowland Cobbold has been named as new general manager-Europe for Cathay Pacific Airways. He will be based in London, and succeeds Mr John Olsen, who is transferring to Tokyo as Cathay Pacific's general manager.

William Press in 1980

"A major reorganisation, turnover in real terms maintained, and higher profits, with the group... set on course to resume its former progress."

W. A. Hawken, Chairman

Notwithstanding the present recession we are maintaining and in some cases extending our traditional business particularly offshore where we foresee further opportunities. We are also seeking increased business in a wider field both geographically and in other sectors of industry where our existing skills and resources can be effectively utilised.

We continue to search with a conservative approach for other businesses which will fit in with our corporate strategy.

A copy of the full statement by the Chairman, with the annual report and accounts, is available from the Secretary, William Press Group PLC, 28 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AU.

Results in brief	1980		1979	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Turnover	252,000	227,000		
Pre-tax profit	8,227	6,625		
Taxation	(2,458)	(1,998)		
Minority interests	(324)	(84)		
Special taxation credit	4,919	—		
Extraordinary item	(2,200)	(2,000)		
Profit attributable to the members	8,164	2,543		
Ordinary dividend per share	1.38p	1.3p		
Earnings per ordinary share	4.54p	3.78p		

William Press Group

Public Limited Company

Serving the world's energy and energy-related industries.

مركز الأمل

Interest rates after Ottawa

Cutting the Gordian knot

British Land Assets not income

Unit trusts: should the rules be tightened?

‘ The relationship between a fund manager’s personal dealings and those transactions carried out on behalf of the fund he manages have been the subject of three Codes of Practice within the last eighteen months ’

Philip Robinson

Philip Robinson

Economic notebook

Little comfort for the Third World

**In the wake of
the Ottawa
summit,
Melvyn Westlake
assesses the
West's attitude
to the
developing nations**

caused by these interest payments is now bigger than the oil deficit.

Business Diary: Uttlesford's Stansted Eyre-obatics

Wallchart

.....THE COST OF
ADVERTISING A 'SITUATION
VACANT' IS LESS THAN

THE COST IN

Bett, who after four years in the job has moved on — again within the public sector — to British Telecom.

The Pinkerton organisation is pleased to announce the opening of an office offering Private Security and Investigation Services at:

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Anthony C. Purbrick, Managing Director
Denis F. Myers, Manager.

Pinkerton's of the
United Kingdom Limited

Ross Davies

Graham Eyre: two London airports or three?

This lies between the

Freebooters within the Thatcher administration appear to

ation. He succeed

Michael

ROSS DAVIES

MARKET REPORTS

tsubishi down 2pc spite record sales

Tsubishi said in Tokyo yesterday that its consolidated after-tax net income slipped 2.3 per cent to 41,076m yen (about £24m), despite a 17 per cent rise in revenues to a record 14,835 billion yen, in the year to March 31.

Japan's largest trading company blamed the fall on heavier interest payments, increased operating expenses and foreign exchange losses in translating overseas profits into yen. The heavier interest payments were incurred mainly domestically.

Earnings per share eased to 36.17 yen from 39.04 yen, after an increase in the issued capital to 1,152m shares from 1,006m shares a year earlier.

Domestic revenues comprised the largest portion of revenues, 6,032 billion yen or 40.7 per cent, despite rising only 12.3 per cent from the year-earlier period. The domestic sales were led by sales of machinery, mainly power stations, and raw materials, particularly crude oil and naphtha.

Offshore transactions showed the fastest sales growth, 34.1 per cent, largely on sales of raw materials and foods, but comprised only 10.6 per cent of all revenues. Imports and exports combined to account for the remaining 48.7 per cent of all revenues. Imports rose by 16.6 per cent, while exports rose by 20.3 per cent.

MBB up but outlook tough

Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm (MBB), the West German defence and aerospace group, is worried about the medium-term outlook despite increasing 1980 earnings to DM50m (about £11m) from DM40m in 1979, Herr Gero Madelung, the chairman, said in Munich yesterday.

Herr Madelung said that uncertainty over the development of a new European tactical fighter to follow the multi-role Tornado, as well as expected declines in military helicopter and spacecraft projects over the next few years, would create serious problems for

Wall Street

New York, July 22—Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange closed at a record low for the year with the Dow Jones industrial average off 9.08 to 324.85. The previous low of 321.57 was reached February 13.

The index was off 0.74 to 73.85 and the average price per

July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	April 30	April 29	April 28	April 27	April 26	April 25	April 24	April 23	April 22	April 21	April 20	April 19	April 18	April 17	April 16	April 15	April 14	April 13	April 12	April 11	April 10	April 9	April 8	April 7	April 6	April 5	April 4	April 3	April 2	April 1	March 31	March 30	March 29	March 28	March 27	March 26	March 25	March 24	March 23	March 22	March 21	March 20	March 19	March 18	March 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